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THE QUEEN'S GUARD







The King, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex accompanied the Queen's coffin on its way from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh to lie at rest for 24 hours

Royal family united in grief

● Queen's children keep vigil over coffin ● Thousands line Royal Mile for procession ● King addresses parliamentarians

Valentine Low

The four children of Queen Elizabeth were united in a public display of their private grief last night as they kept a vigil over her coffin in Edinburgh.

As members of the public filed past, the King, his sister and two brothers stood in silent guard over their late mother as she lay at rest in St Giles' Cathedral.

Heads bowed, the siblings shared a deeply personal moment before the eyes of the world. The four of them — the King, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex — spent ten minutes in the cathedral, standing with four members of the Royal Company of Archers who were on guard.

Their vigil followed a tradition that dated back to 1936, when the four sons of George V stood in vigil over his coffin as it lay in state in Westminster Hall. Yesterday the Duke of York closed his eyes in private contemplation, while his siblings looked down at the floor.

Sombre and pensive after a long day of engagements, the King appeared almost oblivious as members of the

public walked past the coffin, which was draped in the Royal Standard of Scotland and topped with the Crown of Scotland and a wreath of white flowers.

The only concession to the royal presence came when the public procession was temporarily halted as the four siblings arrived to take their places around the coffin. The Queen Consort and Countess of Wessex sat on seats opposite the coffin during the vigil.

Then, as the procession resumed, a number of members of the public bowed as they passed the King, while others walked solemnly by with their heads lowered. Two members of the royal party wore uniform. The Duke of York wore a black morning suit and the King wore a kilt in the Prince Charles Edward Stuart tartan and a black jacket with white heather in his lapel from Balmoral.

Although the duke is not being allowed to wear uniform for the formal ceremonies during the mourning for the Queen as he is no longer a working member of the royal family, an exception is being made for the vigil that will be staged at Westminster Hall

later in the week. The Earl of Wessex wore the Blues Uniform of the Honorary Royal Colonel of the Wessex Yeomanry and the Princess Royal, the first woman to take part in such a royal vigil, wore Royal Navy full ceremonial uniform in the rank of admiral.

The tradition began when Edward

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The Queen — a life

24-page supplement

VIII, the son of George V, had the idea of honouring his father by standing in vigil with his brothers, the Duke of York (later George VI), Henry, Duke of Gloucester, and George, Duke of Kent. No members of the public witnessed the

occasion. The vigil was staged after midnight, long after Westminster Hall was closed, and the only record was a painting by Frank Beresford. Queen Mary, George's widow, was said to have been deeply moved. She later bought the painting, entitled *The Princes' Vigil: 12.15 am, January 28, 1936*, and gave it to Edward VIII for his birthday.

George VI's children were far too young for such an occasion when he died in 1952, but the tradition was revived in 2002 when Charles, Andrew, Edward and their cousin Viscount Linley, now the Earl of Snowdon, stood guard over the Queen Mother's coffin.

Last night's vigil followed a procession in which the Queen's coffin was borne from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to the cathedral as her four children walked behind the hearse in front of thousands of onlookers.

The King, 73, received messages of condolence in Westminster Hall before addressing members of both houses of parliament. Later he flew to Scotland, where he took part in the Ceremony of the Keys before speaking to the Scottish parliament. Responding to a motion of

condolence at Holyrood, Charles paid tribute to his late mother and said that he was "determined" to emulate her service to the country.

Addressing assembled MSPs, former first ministers, presiding officers and leading figures from Scottish civil society, the King said: "If I might paraphrase the words of the great Robert Burns, my dear mother was the friend of man, the friend of truth, the friend of age and guide of youth."

Today the King and Queen Consort will visit Northern Ireland on the second leg of their tour of the home nations.

Later the Queen's coffin will be taken to Edinburgh airport, where it will be flown to RAF Northolt, accompanied by the Princess Royal. From there it will be driven to Buckingham Palace, where it will be received by the King and Queen Consort on their return from Belfast. The Prince and Princess of Wales will also be present as the coffin is taken into the Bow Room, where it will remain for 24 hours to give Palace staff a chance to pay their respects.

News Queen Elizabeth II



Moment of remembrance that

**Jack Blackburn, Magnus Linklater
Charlie Parker, Mike Wade**

In front of their old Queen and their new King, the first of thousands of members of the public came to pay their respects to the late monarch's coffin as it lay at rest in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh.

As day gave way to night, they trickled past, respectfully bowing or curtsying before the coffin, perhaps pausing for a few seconds and then steadily departing. The emotion sometimes proved overwhelming and many wiped tears from their eyes.

The only sound that could be heard inside the cathedral was the soft shuffling of shoes as the Queen's grief-stricken subjects passed her coffin. Despite hundreds of mourners filing through the grand hall, many visibly shaken by what they were seeing, it was intensely quiet.

The Crown of Scotland, placed on Her Majesty's coffin by Alexander

Douglas-Hamilton, the 16th Duke of Hamilton, glistened beneath a series of golden lights illuminating the casket. Soldiers of the Royal Company of Archers in immaculate military dress were positioned on each of the four corners, heads lowered, faces glum.

Those who had queued all day to pay their respects adopted a slow pace to pass the monarch, stopping only to briefly bow their heads or curtsey.

Outside the cathedral stood the adjutant-brigadier, Captain Jamie Fraser, who leads the King's bodyguard for Scotland and was responsible for the vigils. "It went very smoothly, given it was a no-notice event on the scale we were putting on," he said. Of his personal role, he added: "I was on the parade... at the rear, behind the guard of honour making sure they look correct."

Some who had been queueing outside for hours passed out in the cold. Foil blankets were soon handed out. At the head of the line was George Higgins, 61, a veteran of the 1st Battalion of the

A CROWN CROMWELL COULDN'T DESTROY

The Crown of Scotland is the oldest crown jewel in Britain (Jack Blackburn writes). It was remade in 1540 for James V of Scotland, and used again just three years later for the coronation of his daughter, Mary Queen of Scots.

When her son James VI became James I of

England, the crowns were united. Later, in the 17th century, after the Civil War, Oliver Cromwell destroyed the English crown jewels but the Crown of Scotland survived after being secretly buried. Charles II was crowned King of Scotland with it in 1651, the last monarch to be so.

The crown was returned when the monarchy was restored. Yesterday the Duke of Hamilton, the bearer of the Crown of Scotland, placed it on the Queen's coffin. It weighs 3.6lb, making it even heavier than the Imperial State Crown, which weighs 2.3lb and is used in coronations.

Royal Regiment of Scotland, who said it was "the honour of my life" to be one of the first to lay eyes on the Queen's coffin in the cathedral. He had finished a night shift as a security guard when he went to see if he could queue and was told he was the first there. "It was very eerily quiet, you could hear a pin drop,"

he said. "Such a personal experience. It's not every day you get to say farewell to the Queen." After 11 hours of queueing, he left to start another night shift.

For many, the most poignant moment came during the Vigil of the Princes. The late Queen's children returned to the cathedral at 7.45pm and

stood by the coffin as members of the public filed past yards away, allowing them to share in the royal family's grief.

The King stood at his mother's head, his lapel adorned with white heather from Balmoral. The Princess Royal, in her naval uniform, stood at her mother's left. The Earl of Wessex took his place at his mother's right, with the Duke of York at the foot of the coffin. The Queen Consort and the Countess of Wessex sat and watched as members of the public filed past on two sides.

After ten minutes of silence there came the sound of three strikes and then three strikes more. The King slowly peeled away first from his place and walked past his sister, leading his family from this most public of private moments. They departed via the west door and the King raised a small smile as the assembled crowds outside broke out into gentle, respectful applause.

"It was heart-rending, so hard to take in," said Marjory Blackburn, 63, a civil servant from Dungannon, Co Tyrone.



The King and his family were seated as the coffin, draped in the Royal Standard of Scotland, was borne in and the Crown of Scotland was placed on top. Later, the family held a vigil as members of the public filed past; the King stood at his mother's head, Princess Anne and Prince Edward at her sides and Prince Andrew at the foot of the coffin. The vigil lasted ten minutes



summed up a nation's sorrow

"It was so final, the coffin so small. It didn't feel real."

St Giles' has seen many historic days but few so fully attended as this. It began with a service of thanksgiving for the life of Her Majesty the Queen. At 3.20pm the coffin was borne into the cathedral by eight soldiers of the Royal Regiment of Scotland and laid on the wooden catafalque in the centre of the nave. Draped in the Royal Standard of Scotland, it carried a wreath of wild flowers, roses, herbs and white heather from Balmoral and a crown — the "honours of Scotland" — that Elizabeth had carried down that same nave in 1953, the year of her coronation. The Crown of Scotland was placed upon it.

The coffin is lying at rest, not in state: a domestic moment for Scotland rather than a state affair. "Scotland's farewell to our late monarch," as the minister Calum Macleod put it.

Accompanied by the Queen Consort, the King looked on from his seat, yards from his mother's coffin. Next to him were Prince Andrew, known in Scotland as the Earl of Inverness, and Prince Edward, who is the Earl of Forfar north of the border. Princess Anne sat beside

the Queen Consort and was accompanied by her husband, Vice-Admiral Sir Timothy Laurence.

Liz Truss was in attendance, as she will be at other services across the four nations of the Union. The former prime minister Gordon Brown and the former Liberal leaders Lord Steel of Aikwood and Lord Campbell of Pittenweem were flanked by the figures of today. Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's first minister, joined other leaders from the Scottish parliament, including Labour's Anas Sarwar, the Conservative Party's Douglas Ross, the Liberal Democrats' Alex Cole-Hamilton and Lorna Slater, co-leader of the Scottish Greens.

They then shared their condolences with the new King in the Scottish parliament, with elected representatives acting as the voice of the Scottish people. The session was moving and generous, but, on this day, the citizens of Scotland had needed no intermediary.

Mourning lets a nation become a family again, Melanie Phillips, page 28 Outpouring of affection shows monarchy can bind a diverse nation, letters, page 30 Admiration for the Queen underlines the value of the union, leading article, page 31

VIGIL OF PRINCES ... AND A PRINCESS

A Vigil of the Princes sounds like something out of a medieval romance but it is a modern invention (Jack Blackburn writes). The ten-minute standing of the guard yesterday, performed by Elizabeth II's children, was only the third such occasion in history.

And the Princess Royal made history by becoming the first woman to take part in a Vigil of the Princes.

The first vigil was held in honour of George V, the grandfather of the late Queen, who died in 1936.

In that instance, the ritual was held in private

amid the sepulchral gloom of midnight as Westminster Hall was closed to the public. Little did the people know three kings were in the room — the recently deceased George V, the ill-fated Edward VIII and his brother Prince Albert, who would succeed as George VI after his sibling's abdication. They were accompanied by their brothers, the Dukes of Gloucester and Kent.

George VI had two daughters who were not expected to carry out the vigil and so the tradition was not repeated for another 66 years.

In 2002, the Queen Mother was honoured by the man who would be King, the Duke of York,

the Queen's nephew, Viscount Linley, and the Earl of Essex.

They stood for 20 minutes, starting at 4.40pm on April 8. The moment was observed impeccably but cast a light on some tensions within the royal family that are now a distant memory.

While the young Princes William and Harry watched on, Camilla Parker Bowles, as the new Queen Consort was then, was ushered in through a side door. At the time, *The Times* referred to her as "the Prince of Wales's companion" and she was still a figure of some controversy after the collapse of Prince

Charles's marriage to Diana, Princess of Wales.

Camilla joined the queue of public mourners, stopping for four minutes before the catafalque, curtsying and bowing her head before leaving discreetly.

At that point, it would have been impossible to imagine that she would watch the next iteration of this ritual as Queen Consort. Charles was notably emotional after the death of his grandmother.

He returned to Westminster Hall again at 11.30pm. It was the night before the funeral and he stood on the dais looking at the coffin for 20 minutes before departing silently.

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In hushed reverence, they lined Royal Mile

Mike Wade, Charlie Parker

This was a day like no other in Edinburgh. Not since 1543, when the body of James V was carried through the city to his grave at Holyrood, has a royal cortège passed through its streets.

This was an occasion, mostly, of grandeur and solemnity, a magnificent, emotionally charged event that threw people from all walks of life together in new friendships as they stood for hours, united by their common purpose of paying their respect to the monarch who had defined their lives.

And it was an occasion, mostly, of unaccustomed peacefulness, the traffic stilled by an elaborate security operation, so the hubbub of voices could be heard, not the buses and delivery vans.

When the parade began formally at 2.30pm, the Queen's children led by the King followed the hearse from the Palace of Holyroodhouse, where the Queen had lain overnight. For half an hour the silence was shattered by the sound of cannon fire thundering from the castle ramparts looming over the city, as Scotland honoured its Queen.

By the time the procession arrived at St Giles' Cathedral, the crowd behind the crash barriers was 15 deep, those at the back pressed against the wall of the High Court, craning to watch the sombre procession come to an end.

This mass of people, tens of thousands, had begun assembling along the length of the Royal Mile from first light, many unfolding camping chairs, in anticipation of a six or seven-hour wait.

Everyone was here. A bikers' gang of army veterans, women in niqabs, middle-aged men in jeans and jerseys, young women in cropped tops, their tattooed belly buttons exposed, and young men in mourning attire.

Samir Zentouri and Ben McGill, both

ACCOMPANIED BY ARCHERS

As the hearse crept up Edinburgh's Royal Mile, it was accompanied by four lines of troops. The lines on the outside were the Royal Company of Archers, the King's Bodyguard for Scotland, a role they have fulfilled since 1822 (Jack Blackburn writes).

They are distinctive for the eagle feathers in their caps and the bows they carry, a tradition dating back to their founding as an archery club in 1676. They flanked the coffin bearer party from the Royal Regiment of Scotland, the only Scottish line infantry regiment. The King followed with the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex. Behind them was Vice-Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, then a car carrying the Queen Consort and the Countess of Wessex.

18, school friends from Balerno High School, west Edinburgh, were meant to be starting their first week at university. Instead they returned to their home city, wearing dark suits and black ties.

"It is the least we can do to show respect," Zentouri, a law student at Aberdeen, said. "We want to pay tribute to a life of public service. We admire the Queen and what she has done in a long life, especially when you consider the social changes that have taken place."

McGill, studying international relations at St Andrews, said: "There are members of the royal family you shouldn't celebrate but as an ideal, as a group, they are greater than any one of their parts. That is what is to be respected about the royal family."

All day the cordon near St Giles' was busiest and people were at their most boisterous. As the morning wore on, hundreds spontaneously sang *God Save the King* then gave three cheers. Leading them was John Burleigh, 69, wearing blue traditional Highland dress. The former mechanical engineer from Greenock said his job was "rallying the troops" up and down the Royal Mile.

From under his kilt he revealed a pair of Union Jack underpants.

"I'm a Scot but the Scottish flag is in the Union Jack," he said. "The Queen was the glue that kept this nation together. In death she's doing it right now, the people are here. I hope the people wake up and figure out there's more that unites us than divides us."

The police operation was vast but friendly, supported by hundreds of volunteer stewards and paid security staff.

An officer by St Giles' cheerfully admitted there was no protocol to deal with protesters in the crowd. Even the snipers on the rooftops were occasionally moved to smile and wave.

There was a brief demonstration. A man was arrested after shouting at the cortège but the crowd was almost entirely good natured. The sheer numbers had little impact on local businesses.

A month after the Edinburgh Festival the streets were busier than ever but the shops were not feeling the benefit.

The House of Edinburgh, a store selling cashmere and lambs' wool clothing, is opposite the cathedral. But the crowd outside its doors had their eyes fixed firmly on the street.

Arthur Halsall, 21, a sales assistant, said most people were using the doorway as a viewpoint. "It's weird that there are so many people standing around while the shop is empty," Halsall, a student at Edinburgh University, said. "It's hard to comprehend an event like this but special to be a part of history."

The sense of history had moved John Elliot, 83, a retired Royal Navy officer, to put on his uniform "one last time" and travel from his home in Dundee.

"She was my boss," he said. "It's what we used to call her affectionately in the navy. My sense of service made me want to come here and see her. It's my first love ... apart from my wife."





King Charles, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex walk behind the coffin during the procession from Holyroodhouse to St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, with the Countess of Wessex, far left, following in a vehicle behind. Prince Andrew will wear military uniform only at the final vigil, as he is no longer a working member of the royal family. The coffin is lying at rest at the cathedral until this afternoon, before being flown to London



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Disgraced Andrew is forced to follow coffin in civvies

David Brown

The Duke of York's humiliation at being stripped of his royal duties was laid bare yesterday when he was the only one of the Queen's children not dressed in military uniform as they followed her coffin.

The Falklands war veteran has been barred from wearing his navy uniform because he was in effect sacked as a "working" member of the royal family after he was disgraced over his relationship with Jeffrey Epstein, the paedophile financier.

Working royals including the King, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal and the Earl of Wessex will parade in military uniform at the state funeral and other occasions in the next week.

Prince Andrew, 62, is not allowed to wear a uniform at four of the five ceremonial events during the period of mourning for the Queen. He will be allowed to wear his vice-admiral's uniform only at the Westminster Hall vigil for his mother as a "special mark of respect". The ruling is believed to have been imposed by the King, who is determined that Andrew should not be allowed to return as a working royal.

Almost all of those in the procession behind the Queen's coffin from the Palace of Holyroodhouse along the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral yesterday wore military, ceremonial or church uniforms.

Andrew displayed eight medals with his morning suit. They comprised a South Atlantic Medal for his service during the Falklands war, Silver, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Jubilee medals and Royal Navy Long Service medals with bars. He also wore a Canadian Forces Decoration with bar and a New Zealand Commemoration medal.

Andrew stepped down from public life after the furore over his relationship with Epstein. He paid millions of pounds to settle a civil sexual assault case brought by Virginia Giuffre, who claims that she was forced to have sex with the prince when she was 17. He has consistently denied the allegations.

The Queen stripped her second son of all of his honorary military roles, including Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, and he gave up his HRH style

Police berated for arresting dissenters

Fiona Hamilton Crime Editor
Charlie Parker

Police forces are facing a backlash for arresting and investigating protesters, including a man who heckled the Duke of York as he walked behind the Queen's coffin in Edinburgh.

Officers in Scotland and England moved on protesters for alleged breaches of the peace.

In Edinburgh, the man was arrested over an alleged breach of the peace. The protester yelled "You're a sick old man!" at the Duke, before mourners grabbed him and dragged him to the ground.

A 22-year-old woman who held up a sign that said "F*** imperialism, abolish monarchy", is facing criminal charges.

Symon Hill, 45, was arrested in Oxford after shouting "Who elected him?" as he walked past an event where King Charles III was being proclaimed as the new king on Sunday. He was released later, but is being investigated over a public order offence.

Hill wrote online that he did not insult anyone gathered, but simply stated his view that a head of state was being imposed on the British people without consent.

Liberty, the civil liberties organisation, said it was "very worrying to see the police enforcing their broad powers in such a heavy-handed and punitive way to clamp down on free speech and expression".

Police sources have said they sometimes have to intervene for the safety of protesters if crowds become angry at their heckling.

in January before the legal settlement. He retained his rank as a vice-admiral.

The Queen avoided controversy at the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral in April last year by deciding that, in a break with tradition, no members of the royal family should wear uniform.

Reports had suggested that Andrew was considering wearing the uniform of an admiral. He was due to be promoted to admiral in 2020 to mark his 60th birthday, but this did not go ahead after his disastrous appearance on BBC's *Newsnight*, in which he defended his relationship with Epstein.

The King wore uniform yesterday as he led his siblings behind the hearse carrying their mother's coffin in Edinburgh. Charles wore a full-day ceremonial uniform with the rank of field marshal — carrying a field marshal baton presented to him by the Queen when he took up the role in 2012.

The King also wore the Order of Merit neck decoration, with the thistle star and thistle sash.

Among his medals, Charles wore a Queen's Service Order medal, a Coronation medal, Silver, Golden, Diamond and Platinum medals and a Naval Long Service and Good Conduct medal. The King also wore a New Zealand Commemorative medal, a New Zealand Armed Forces Award and a Canadian Forces Decoration.

The Earl of Wessex also wore all four Jubilee medals, alongside a New Zealand medal and a Canadian Forces medal.

Alongside the Jubilee medals, the Princess Royal wore a Queen's Service Order, a Coronation medal, a Long Service and Good Conduct medal, a Canadian Forces decoration, an Order of St John Service medal and a New Zealand 1990 medal.

Anne also wore three decorations — the Most Noble Order of the Garter, the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle and the Royal Victorian Order.

Andrew will be allowed to wear his uniform as he stands guard around her coffin during the vigil of the princes at Westminster Hall. He is expected to be joined by his brothers and sister at the proceedings during the lying in state later this week.



Prince Harry posted this photo in black and white on his Archewell site in tribute

Vigil for the Queen is duke's last stand in fight to resume his duties

ANALYSIS

Every few months or so someone close to the Duke of York suggests, anonymously, that the duke would like to serve his country and was hopeful of a return to royal duties (Valentine Low writes).

With equal predictability other royal sources would promptly pour cold water on the suggestion, saying that there was no way that

Andrew would be allowed to become a working member of the royal family again: not now, not soon, not ever. Now, with the death of the Queen, Andrew is once more lined up with his brothers and sister as the family mourns.

In Edinburgh, as the coffin was borne in procession from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to St Giles' Cathedral, the hearse walked behind the hearse with the King, the Princess Royal and the Earl of Wessex. In

the evening he joined his brothers and his sister to mount a vigil around the coffin as it lay in rest, covered with the Royal Standard of Scotland and a wreath of flowers. It was an emotionally resonant moment, as the Queen's four children paid tribute to their mother.

Later he will take part in the Princes' Vigil at Westminster Hall, a royal tradition that has taken place twice before: after the death of the Queen Mother in 2002,

and the death of King George V in 1936.

For Prince Andrew the sadness of the moment was matched by the welcome thought that he was not being treated as a royal pariah. He stood equal behind the hearse with Charles, Anne and Edward.

But not quite equal. Unlike his three siblings, Andrew was not in military uniform. While the King wore a full day ceremonial uniform with the rank of Field Marshal, Andrew wore a

morning suit. It was, the Palace explained, because he was not a working member of the royal family.

The duke, who was stripped of his military affiliations this year, will be allowed to wear uniform for the vigil at Westminster Hall as a mark of special respect for the Queen.

The message could not have been more transparent. He is a member of the family and should be allowed to grieve and pay his respects just as the others are. But his status has not altered. He is not a working royal, and there is no suggestion that this will change.

Until now, there has always been another factor in his favour. His mother never lost her love for him, as was made plain when she allowed him to take her to her seat at the memorial to the Duke of Edinburgh at Westminster Abbey. Now she has gone, the

head of the family is King Charles, who has always been adamant that the controversy over Andrew should not be allowed to tarnish the reputation of the family. And the heir to the throne is Prince William, who stood shoulder to shoulder with his father on this.

For the Duke of York, there will be no reprieve. He is a former working member of the royal family and will remain as such. He will have to find his own way of serving.

STEVE PARSONS/POOL VIA REUTERS



to the Queen. He is no longer a working member of the royal family so cannot wear military uniform at official events

Meghan puts her podcast on pause during period of mourning

The Duchess of Sussex has paused the release of her Spotify podcast, *Archetypes*, for the duration of the mourning period for the Queen.

Three full episodes of the audio series have been released since its launch on August 23, featuring conversations with the veteran tennis player Serena Williams, the pop star Mariah Carey and the actress and producer Mindy Kaling.

In late 2020 Meghan and Prince Harry signed a lucrative deal with the audio streaming giant, estimated to be worth about \$25 million, to host and produce podcasts.

A message on the podcast's Spotify page said: "New episodes of *Archetypes* will be paused during the official

mourning period for Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth II."

A period of royal mourning will continue until seven days after the Queen's funeral on Monday.

Buckingham Palace said royal



The Duchess of Sussex has released three episodes so far

mourning would be observed by members of the royal family, royal household staff and representatives of the royal household undertaking official duties,

together with troops committed to ceremonial duties. This would seem to apply to the *Archetypes* podcasts.

National mourning in contrast, continues until the end of the day of the Queen's funeral.

Archetypes was launched with the aim of investigating "labels that try to hold women back" through conversations between Meghan and historians, experts and women who have experienced being typecast.

So far episodes have featured titles such as *The Duality Of Diva*, in which she talked to Carey, and *The Misconception Of Ambition*, in which the duchess chatted with Williams.

The *Archetypes* podcast promised to "rip apart the boxes women have been

Harry: I'll miss Granny's advice – and her smile

Ben Ellery

The Duke of Sussex has paid an emotional tribute to the Queen, calling her his "guiding compass", as it has emerged he will not be allowed to wear his military uniform to her funeral.

Prince Harry has been told he cannot wear his military honours at any ceremonial events while mourning Her Majesty as he is no longer a working member of the Royal Family.

The news emerged hours after he had released a tribute to his "Granny", in which he thanked her for her "infectious smile". A photo of Harry smiling with the Queen at the 2019 wedding of Lady Gabriella Windsor, daughter of the Queen's cousin Prince Michael of Kent, was posted on his Archewell website alongside the tribute.

It said: "Let us echo the words she spoke after the passing of her husband, Prince Philip, words which can bring comfort to all of us now: 'Life, of course, consists of final partings as well as first meetings.'

The tribute added that Harry would "smile knowing that you and grandpa are reunited now, and both together in peace". It had been delayed by a day out of respect for the anniversary of the September 11 terror attacks.

The duke said he would honour his father, Charles, as King. In his address to the nation, the King said: "I also want to express my love for Harry and Meghan, as they continue to build their lives overseas." The duke and duchess have spoken candidly about the tense relationships they have with the family, sharing a number of claims with Oprah Winfrey about their time as working royals in an interview last year.

However, Harry remained close to his grandmother, and the duke and duchess visited her at Windsor Castle during their first joint return to Britain in April. The couple also returned to the UK in June for the Platinum Jubilee.

The Duke of York has been allowed to wear his military honours at one of the events marking the Queen's death — a ceremonial event in Westminster Hall tomorrow. A special exception has been granted for him to wear a military uniform at the final vigil as a sign of respect for his mother.

Harry lost his three honorary military titles — captain general of the Royal Marines, honorary air commandant of RAF Honington and commodore-in-chief, small ships and diving,

THE FULL STATEMENT

"In celebrating the life of my grandmother, Her Majesty The Queen — and in mourning her loss — we are all reminded of the guiding compass she was to so many in her commitment to service and duty.

"She was globally admired and respected. Her unwavering grace and dignity remained true throughout her life and now her everlasting legacy.

"Let us echo the words she spoke after the passing of her husband, Prince Philip, words which can bring comfort to all of us now: 'Life, of course, consists of final partings as well as first meetings.'

"Granny, while this final parting brings us great sadness, I am forever grateful for all of our first meetings — from my earliest childhood memories with you, to meeting you for the first time as my Commander-in-Chief, to the first moment you met my darling wife and hugged your beloved great-grandchildren.

"I cherish these times shared with you, and the many other special moments in between. You are already sorely missed, not just by us, but by the world over. And as it comes to first meetings, we now honour my father in his new role as King Charles III.

"Thank you for your commitment to service. Thank you for your sound advice. Thank you for your infectious smile.

"We, too, smile knowing that you and grandpa are reunited now, and both together in peace."

Royal Naval Command — when he and his wife stepped back from their senior royal roles in March 2020.

At Prince Philip's funeral in April last year, Buckingham Palace announced that no senior royal family members would wear traditional military uniforms. Queen Elizabeth's funeral will differ from her husband's as Philip's service was scaled back to a ceremonial royal funeral, not a state funeral, because of Covid-19 restrictions.

It was a privilege to watch the Queen at work, Comment, William Hague, page 27

placed into for generations". However, according to *The Times*'s review of the first episode — the interview with Williams — "the effect of all the tinkly music and vapid conversation is to make you feel you've been locked in the relaxation room of a wellness spa with an unusually self-involved yoga instructor".

The decision to pause the podcast comes after Harry paid an emotional tribute to the Queen on Monday, thanking her for her "sound advice" and "infectious smile". In a statement, he also described her as a "guiding compass" through her commitment to service and duty.

The statement came two days after the duke and duchess joined the new

Prince and Princess of Wales at Windsor Castle on Saturday for an unexpected walkabout, viewing the floral tributes left at the castle gates and chatting to members of the public who had congregated there.

INSIDE TODAY
Queen and country
24-page souvenir

Don't miss our commemorative pullouts for the rest of this week

News Queen Elizabeth II

King feels the weight of history

Henry Zeffman
Associate Political Editor

The King said that he felt the weight of history and vowed to emulate his mother's example of "selfless duty" as he addressed parliament for the first time as sovereign.

Speaking before MPs and peers in Westminster Hall, the oldest part of the Palace of Westminster, the King offered a paean to parliamentary traditions.

"As I stand before you today, I cannot help but feel the weight of history which surrounds us and which reminds us of the vital parliamentary traditions to which members of both houses dedicate yourselves, with such personal commitment for the betterment of us all," he said.

"Parliament is the living and breathing instrument of our democracy. That your traditions are ancient we see in the construction of this great hall and the reminders of medieval predecessors of the office to which I have been called."

Quoting Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*, the King said that the late Queen had been "a pattern to all princes living". He noted the "tangible connections to my darling late mother we see all around us", referring to the stained glass window in the hall paid for by parliamentarians for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, as well as a fountain commemorating her Silver Jubilee and a sundial for her Golden Jubilee.

The King noted that at the Diamond Jubilee the tower housing Big Ben's bell, "one of the most powerful symbols of our nation throughout the world", had been renamed the Elizabeth Tower.

He concluded: "We gather today in remembrance of the remarkable span of the Queen's dedicated service to her nations and peoples. While very young, Her late Majesty pledged herself to serve her country and her people and to maintain the precious principles of constitutional government which lie at the heart of our nation. This vow she kept with unsurpassed devotion.

"She set an example of selfless duty which, with God's help and your counsels, I am resolved faithfully to follow."

On one side of the King were senior members of the Commons, including Liz Truss sitting beside Sir Keir Starmer and other party leaders. Leading peers were opposite. The King's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard and the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms processed into the hall before the ceremony began.

State trumpeters of the Household Cavalry stationed at the south window balcony sounded a fanfare when the King and Queen Consort arrived having been driven from Clarence House. They sat on thrones at one end of the hall, which was built by William II in 1097 and is where Charles I was tried and sentenced to death in 1649.

The address at the start of the King's reign was an innovation. The Queen did not make such a speech after the death of George VI in 1952. She addressed parliament five times in Westminster Hall: in 1977 to mark her Silver Jubilee; in 1988 for the 300th anniversary of the Glorious Revolution, which established the primacy of parliament; in 1995 for the 50th anniversary of VE Day; in 2002 to mark her Golden Jubilee; and in 2012 on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee.

Before the King spoke, Lord McFall of Alcluith, the Lord Speaker, and Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the Speaker of the Commons, made addresses of condolences.

McFall, a former Labour MP, praised the Queen's "humility and integrity". He said that "the qualities that Her late Majesty embodied with such constancy remain, to inspire you, Your Majesty, your family, and all your

DEBT TO SHAKESPEARE

As the King paid tribute to his mother, he told MPs and Lords that "as Shakespeare said of the earlier Queen Elizabeth, she was a pattern to all princes living" (Peter Chappell writes).

It was the second time the King had reached for Shakespeare to explain what the Queen's death and legacy mean to him, to the monarchy and to the country.

He ended his first address as King on Friday by wishing "flights of angels sing thee to thy rest", a reference to the death of Hamlet in the play, when Horatio holds his dying friend in his arms and pays tribute to his nobility.

Emma Smith, professor of Shakespeare studies at the University of Oxford, said: "I think this is obviously poetry, this is obviously writing which means a lot to him. And I think lots of people for many centuries have turned to the beautiful phrases of poets, perhaps especially Shakespeare, to speak of something that is sort of beyond everyday speech. We're not speaking about these kinds of issues normally, so our everyday language is a little bit banal perhaps for it. So it's one way to sort of slightly distance but to give a poetic shape to emotions which otherwise could seem perhaps a bit inarticulate."

The King, who is president of the Royal Shakespeare Company, has long been known for his love and knowledge of the Bard's work. He acted as an unofficial adviser when Sir Kenneth Branagh was preparing to direct and star in his 1989 film of *Henry V*. Branagh credits him for helping his portrayal to capture the "burdens of expectations, and the fact of isolation" of the king.

Branagh even took tips on mannerisms from Charles, choosing to make his character softly spoken. "It was interesting to hear how he spoke: very quietly. People in authority often do. They don't need to raise their voices," he told *The Hollywood Reporter Awards Chatter* podcast this year.

The King has shown over many years a strong interest in promoting Britain's artistic and literary heritage. In 2018, almost 30 years after the film's release, Branagh revived his prologue from *Henry V* during a gala show to celebrate Charles's birthday, a nod to the help that he had once been given.

subjects." He continued: "We are proud and indeed humbled to welcome you as our King. And we look forward to welcoming you on many more occasions to parliament, and to this hall in the years ahead."

Hoyle said: "Members of both houses of parliament gather here to express our deep sympathy for the loss we have all sustained in the death of our sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth. We have seen that this is a loss that is felt around the world.

"Our late Queen was here to mark the historic moments, such as the 50th anniversary of the Second World War, a war in which she herself served in the armed forces.

"And, in 1988, we celebrated the 300th anniversary of the revolutions of 1688 to 1689. It is perhaps very British to celebrate revolutions by presenting an address to Her Majesty, but those revolutions led to our constitutional freedoms, set out the foundation for a stable monarchy, which protects liberty."



Quentin Letts

Horde of harrumphers sat for once in awed silence

Political Sketch



Not often nowadays do you hear the crack of halberd and battleaxe staff on ancient flagstone but that was what we had as the yeomen of the guard and

gentlemen at arms entered Westminster Hall. The King was about to address both houses of parliament. "Crack! Crack! Crack!" went the medieval staves as these ceremonial bodyguards marched into the Norman hall. Overhead loomed oak hammer beams wedged in place during the reign of Richard II. Charles himself quoted Cranmer from Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*.

It was one of those mornings, indeed has been one of those weeks,

when history keeps geysering you in the eyeball. The creaking yeomen and gents at arms, in scarlet coatees and swan-feather helmets, could have been a ghostly platoon, their percussive steps a rattle of bones from an earlier age.

Some 1,200 MPs and peers gathered in mourning garb to take a squint at the new sovereign. He arrived at 10am, alighting from a purring Rolls-Royce Phantom IV. The new lord great chamberlain, Lord Carrington, dressed like the Jack of Diamonds with an untripped billiard cue, met him at the north door. Spit of his late father, is Carrington. He greeted the King and Queen Consort with a cheery "What ho!", or something similar, to put them at their ease.

The purpose of the morning was for the new monarch to promise to heed parliament. His late mother had pledged herself to maintain the

as he addresses MPs and peers



The King addressed politicians from both chambers of parliament at the Palace of Westminster yesterday, with Liz Truss

and Sir Keir Starmer sitting side by side. The hall's rendition of the national anthem left the monarch visibly moved

principles of constitutional government. "She set an example," said the King, "of selfless duty which, with God's help and your counsels, I am resolved faithfully to follow." The language could have been Tudor blank verse, yet by taking it at a relaxed tempo in his rich Dundee-cake voice, the King made it sound natural. He exudes a sense of balm.

The royal duo were seated at pink-upholstered chairs on a raised area towards the south end. In a niche high behind them stood the state trumpeters, taking up position like pieces on a Swiss clock. To the King's left sat the prime minister, leader of the opposition, minor party leaders and some other Rt Hons. Boris Johnson was below, front of the cheap seats, next to Theresa May's hat. Behind them were the massed ministers and backbenchers, lords temporal and spiritual,

thrusters, geriatrics, peacocks and duds. This horde of disputatious harrumphers sat for once in silence, awed by the moment, feal to a constitutional idea.

While those in attendance, who included Jeremy Corbyn, took their seats, the band of the Household Cavalry played soothing airs: Bliss's epilogue from *Things to Come*, Elgar's Ave Verum Corpus, Dowland's Flow My Tears. There is nothing like the distant parp of a brass band to tenderise an audience.

Little noticed, Liz Truss entered just as the tubas swelled during Percy Grainger's Irish Tune From County Derry. The Lords' head doorkeeper popped up to tell us about the emergency exits, not that they had such things in the 11th century. "Enjoy yourselves," said the doorkeeper, as if it were a West End matinee.

Once the King arrived,

accompanied by a kilted young equerry who will surely become a national swoon, humble addresses were made by the two Speakers. The Lords Speaker dithered about starting. He did so only after an aide, in despair, hissed "Go!" The King bore the speeches manfully. His own, mercifully more brief, recalled that Shakespeare described Elizabeth I as "a pattern to all princes living". He said the same was true of his mother.

A drum-roll from the band had us on our feet for *God Save The King*. Kit Malthouse, education secretary, bounced on his toes as he belted it out.

Did Charles's eyes glisten as these thousand hearts sang? But there was a happier twinkle as he walked back through the massed ranks of the body politic. With a faint whiff of vintage petrol, cheers from unseen crowds, the Phantom IV was gone.

Charles benefits from a wave of public goodwill

Chris Smyth Whitehall Editor

Charles III has seen a surge of support since his mother's death, with most Britons praising his leadership and believing he will be a good king.

The first polling on public reactions to the death of Elizabeth II finds almost nine in ten people praising her reign as good for the country, with 87 per cent saying she will probably go down as one of Britain's greatest monarchs.

YouGov finds that initial reactions to the King's leadership since his mother's death are overwhelmingly positive, while people also seem confident in his wife's role as Queen Consort.

The polling finds 73 per cent saying the King has responded well and only 5 per cent suggesting he has handled the past few days badly. A total of 94 per cent say his first address to the nation as King on Friday was a good speech, with only 3 per cent critical.

During his mother's lifetime Charles might have been less popular than the late Queen but there are signs this may be changing. A total of 63 per cent say he will be a good king, with only 15 per cent thinking he will do a bad job.

This is different from YouGov's polling in March, when 39 per cent predicted that he would make a good king and 31 per cent thought he would be a bad one. Support for the monarchy as an institution is largely unchanged at 62 per cent in favour and 21 per cent opposed.

Despite years of uncertainty about how the public would respond to the King's second wife, voters are optimistic she will fulfil the role well. About 53 per cent say Queen Camilla will do well against 18 per cent saying she will be bad.

There are striking differences by age, however, with younger voters much less positive about the new King and his queen. Just 24 per cent of those aged 18 to 24 think Camilla will do a good job, against 36 per cent, compared with a 72 to 11 per cent split among those older than 65. A similar if less pronounced pattern is seen in attitudes towards the new King, with 46 per cent of younger

What his subjects say

Q	Will Charles make a good king?	Will make a good king	Not sure	Will not make a good king
Jul 2019	34%	36%	30%	30%
Jan 2020	39%	34%	27%	27%
Jun 2020	37%	33%	30%	30%
Dec 2020	32%	35%	33%	33%
May 2021	31%	34%	35%	35%
Nov 2021	34%	33%	33%	33%
Mar 2022	39%	30%	31%	31%
May 2022	32%	36%	32%	32%
Sep 2022	63%	22%	15%	15%

Data based on separate surveys of 1,632 to 1,782 British adults. Source: YouGov

voters saying he will do a job against 25 per cent saying he will do badly, compared with 78 to 7 per cent among older voters. Similarly, while 45 per cent of voters overall say the King will be a unifying figure, only 29 per cent of younger voters say the same.

Voters are also uncertain about whether the King should reign until his death, with 46 per cent agreeing, against 35 per cent who say he should hand over to his son at some point.

Voters appear relaxed about the King continuing to speak out on issues he cares about, with 53 per cent saying it would be appropriate for him to continue to make interventions sometimes seen as political. Only 30 per cent say it would not be appropriate for him to continue to air views on areas such as the environment and architecture.

Again, there is an age split with under 25s backing such interventions with 70 per cent in favour against 10 per cent, while 51 per cent of over 65s oppose them against 36 per cent.

The ages agree, however, about Elizabeth II with 71 per cent of younger voters saying she was good for Britain and only 11 per cent saying she was bad. Among the over-65s the split is 97 to 2 per cent. YouGov interviewed 1,727 adults yesterday and Sunday.

Officials feared trespassers might block the royal train

Ben Clatworthy
Transport Correspondent

Plans for the Queen to be transferred from Balmoral to London on the royal train were shelved before the pandemic, *The Times* has been told.

The decision, made jointly by the police and the palace, was made to ensure safety and security. Operation Unicorn, which involved the use of the royal train, was scrapped in favour of Operation Overstudy, meaning that the coffin would be taken by aircraft.

A senior rail source said fears of mass trespass and crowds beside live rail lines were factors in the decision. There were also fears that the train could become a target for protesters or that it

would be disrupted by well-wishers dropping Union flags from bridges.

One of the royal train's carriages had been modified especially to carry the Queen's coffin.

The Queen will now be flown by RAF C17 from Edinburgh to London. The aircraft will leave at 6pm bound for RAF Northolt before the coffin goes on to Buckingham Palace.

Nigel Harris, editor of *Rail* magazine, said the palace's decision to use the aircraft was "wrong-headed". He told *The Daily Telegraph*: "People have been denied their chance to pay their respects to the Queen. I don't think she would have gone along with that."

The coffin will be accompanied on the journey by the Princess Royal.

News Queen Elizabeth II

Mourners warned of 35-hour waits or disappointment

Steven Swinford Political Editor
 Fiona Hamilton
 Crime and Security Editor

More than half the 750,000 mourners expected to queue to pay their respects to Queen Elizabeth II as she lies in state in parliament will be disappointed, despite waits of up to 35 hours.

The Times has been told that there will be capacity for about 350,000 people to come into Westminster Hall during the four days before the funeral on Monday. The queue will be closed early if too many people are joining to avoid people spending hours in it only to be disappointed.

The public are being told not to wait or camp in advance of the processional day in London tomorrow. The procession will start at Buckingham Palace at 2.22pm and head to the Palace of Westminster for the lying in state. It will be televised on large screens at Hyde Park, where access is free from 11am.

A meeting of the government's Cobra emergency planning committee was told yesterday that the central estimate for queuing times to enter Westminster Hall was 17 to 35 hours.

Mourners will face bag checks and searches by sniffer dogs. Firearms officers will be positioned along the route. The government and the mayor of London are looking at relaxing licensing rules so restaurants and cafés along the route can open 24 hours a day.

Churches will be asked to open their doors to provide welfare and support.

The queue will be divided into zones. These will be closed periodically to enable people to get food and refreshments and sit down before returning to the queue using their wristbands.

Ministers also discussed the "delicate" issue of how to stop people spending too long when they get to Westminster Hall for the lying in state.

Officials have raised concerns about people "gaming" the system. There will be a "special access" queue running from Tate Britain to the Houses of Parliament intended for people with disabilities and impairments.

The queue is expected to be a few hours long. "We're worried that people will feign disabilities," a source involved in planning said. The queues are expected to start at Southwark Park in Rotherhithe, going along the south side of the Thames before crossing at Lambeth Bridge. People will then go up Millbank to parliament. The government will encourage people to mark the



A man who chased the King's Rolls-Royce for 100 metres before running into the road for a photograph was led away by royal protection officers in west London

Westminster queues begin

Ali Mitib, Neil Johnston

Mourners queueing to see the Queen lying in state have said that they are not intimidated at the prospect of very long waits exposed to the elements.

The Queen's coffin will be in Westminster Hall from tomorrow at 5pm until the morning of September 19, when it will be taken to Westminster Abbey for the funeral.

People are already gathering to queue on Lambeth Bridge.

Vanessa Nathakumaran, 56, was the first to get there, at 12pm. She said that her Sri Lankan family admired the royal family for advancing the Commonwealth. "I really, really want to be part of it," she said. "I'm not intimidated about staying out here because this is a big moment." Her daughters will bring water and glucose bars.

A former butler of the Queen also joined the queue. Tony Jones used to look after her guests at Royal Ascot. He said: "I thought I'd come along and pay my respects for the duty that she's given the country all these years."



Queen's passing locally rather than coming to London.

The security services have advised that the terrorist threat is "moderate", but there will be an unprecedented operation. An estimated 10,000 police officers will be on duty every day across the capital. Barriers to stop a vehicle being driven into a crowd are being placed on the roads and uniformed and plain-clothes officers will mingle with mourners. There will be marksmen on rooftops and armed officers on patrol.

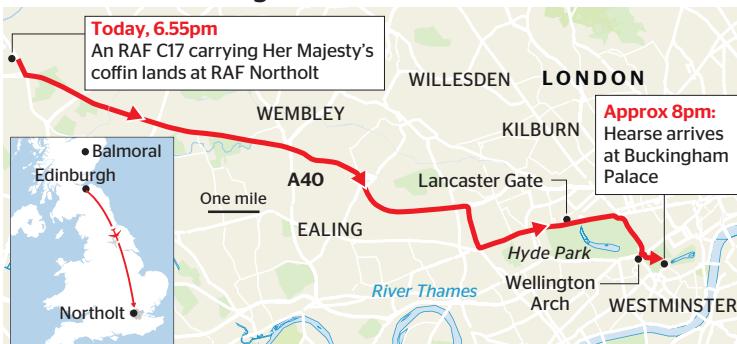
Simon Morgan, a former Metropolitan Police personal protection officer for the Queen and other members of the royal family, said: "It'll be the biggest policing operation that UK policing has ever dealt with."

Morgan, who runs Trojan Consultancy, a security company, added: "It's going to be comparable as an event with the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, but I think the crowds will be in excess of that. Especially as the funeral is now a public holiday."

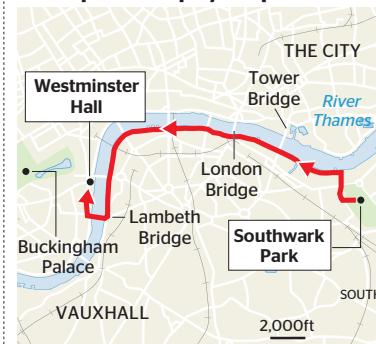
He said other events secured by the Met, such as Trooping the Colour and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's funeral, contained elements of the security operation but they had never been combined before. "The Met protection teams will be stretched. It is a big security operation coinciding with a public safety operation," he said.

Sir Mark Rowley, the new Metropolitan Police commissioner, said the lying in state was a massive challenge but added that preparations had been under way for years and "we will have a safe event".

Coffin route to Buckingham Palace



The queue to pay respects



The seas of bouquets continued to swell outside royal palaces and residences

Crowds of admirers moved to witness the grand sweep of history

The lure varied but all felt that they had to be at the Palace gates to see for themselves, writes Neil Johnston

They turned out in their tens of thousands on the fourth day of mourning as the first full Changing the Guard of the King's reign took place at Buckingham Palace.

As Charles gave his first address to parliament yesterday morning, thou-

sands more patiently queued to leave flowers at the palace and in nearby Green Park, which has been transformed into a sea of floral tributes.

Mourners witnessed the first change of the King's Guard at the royal palaces for 70 years as Number 12 Company Irish Guards stepped off from Wellington Barracks to take over from Number 7 Company The Coldstream Guards.

Duties were handed over to Number 12 Company, led by its regimental mascot, an Irish wolfhound called Turlough Mor, also known as Seamus, in simultaneous ceremonies at Buckingham Palace and St James's Palace.

They took place in front of huge



around the country, including Sandringham in Norfolk. Some came with their parents or children, saying they wanted to feel a part of the historic moment

crowds who had again turned out to pay their respects to the Queen. Many insisted on leaving flowers and cards at the gate but most tributes have been moved to Green Park, where brightly coloured bouquets have been arranged to spell out "Thank you" and also laid out in the shape of a crown and love hearts. Tributes from children are hanging on the trees.

Among those to visit the gates of the Palace yesterday was Helena Baxter, 35, and Esme, three, and Ernie, 18 months, from Swanley in Kent. "We wanted to experience part of history," Baxter said. "We've got some flowers and some pictures that the children have drawn to leave in Green Park. We've got a Paddington Bear one and another of the Queen."

"We saw the crowds over the weekend and thought we should come too. She was a stable person that was there."

Valerie Painting, 66, came from Horsham in West Sussex with her daughter Amelia, 29, a civil servant, on her day off, and wanted to honour the last Queen of their lifetimes.

"We wanted to say thank you for a life of service," Valerie Painting said. "She is

the only monarch I've known so we don't know any different. No one has heard the word King for 70 years and my daughter's age group they are not going to know another Queen."

"We want to be part of it. She's been a big part of our lives so it's not much to give up a few hours."

She added that she felt sorry for the new King having so little time to grieve. "It's hard for Charles, they haven't had five minutes to themselves. Everything they are doing is in the public eye."

Others were lucky enough to catch a glimpse of him as he was driven past in the royal Rolls-Royce on his way to Edinburgh. They included Denise Bertholdi, 56, originally from Brazil, who now lives in Dollis Hill, northwest London, where she runs a green-grocer's. "I saw him a little bit but it was lovely," said Bertholdi, who had been at the gates since early morning. "I have lived here 27 years and that's the first time I've seen the monarch."

"It's good to see him taking on his duties. It's good to see history, the tributes have been lovely and I'm going to leave my own. She did such a good job."

Denise Rice, 61, from Enfield, north

London, said it was the first time she had come to Buckingham Palace since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, 25 years ago.

"That was really emotional too," she said. "It's just an amazing experience to be here and pay my respects. I looked through all the tributes at the park. All the flowers are beautiful."

Amy Kilian, 53, travelled 80 miles from Boxford, Suffolk, after watching the documentary *The Queen: In Her Own Words* and felt compelled to pay tribute herself.

"I was really moved by how she brings people together and all her humanitarian work," she said. "When Princess Diana died my husband came to lay flowers and I always wished that I had come. So this time I wanted to be here. It's surprisingly peaceful and calm."

Sasha Dass, 40, and her husband Akash, also 40, and their children Amelia, 13, and Amrish, 11, travelled from Cardiff to leave a bouquet in Green Park. "I think people are really sad to lose the Queen," Dass said. "She stood for so long."

Some visited the Palace for the

second day running, including Peg Medlar, 75, who was visiting from Ocean City in Maryland. "Everybody in the States loves the Queen," she said. "It's not often you get to be a part of history so we feel lucky to be here."

Marie Hargreaves, 61, from Sidcup, southeast London, came with her daughters Kerri, 37, a police staff worker, and Sam Wrench, 34, who works in banking, who brought her sons Jackson, six, Finley, five and Joey, five months. They left red and white roses and flags from the children, who were wearing England rugby shirts.

"I think it was important for them to see it because they are at an age where they will remember it," Wrench said. "I won't see a Queen again and as a woman with three sons, to have a woman in power it's a big deal and I want them to be here and recognise that."

Her mother added: "She's always been there, it will never be the same, and I feel like we have to do something. We don't want to do nothing and just be sat at home. She's done so much. Charles has a lot to live up to but I'm sure he will."

Centenarian 'tearful' at final card from Queen

Fariha Karim

It may not have been her biggest concern when news broke that the Queen had died, but Gwendolyn Hoare naturally assumed that she would no longer be receiving a message from Buckingham Palace for her 100th birthday in two days' time.

But by Friday morning, as the nation was coming to terms with the Queen's death, the card duly arrived — a day before her birthday — making her one of the last people to receive a message from the monarch.

"It makes me quite tearful," she said. "I am a royalist, old-fashioned. I was [surprised]. What an honour."

"I very much admired [the Queen] and all she did. So when she went, it was a sad moment, but she didn't go before she sent me this. I wasn't sure that I would get it but I was thrilled when I did."

The Queen is thought to have sent about 307,000 100th birthday messages in her lifetime. She also sends messages to people who reach their 105th birthdays and every year thereafter. George V started the tradition via telegrams in 1917.

The original message read: "His Majesty's hope that the blessings of good health and prosperity may attend you during the remainder of your days." Now cards are sent instead.

Buckingham Palace's anniversaries office is informed of forthcoming 100th birthdays by the centenarian team at the Department for Work and Pensions to ensure that everyone receives a message.

However, the practice has been paused, according to the palace, which said that "congratulatory messages are not being sent at this time and applications are not currently being processed". Future messages will be sent on behalf of the King.

The message to Gwendolyn Hoare has already been framed and put on the wall at her home in Manningtree, Essex. "I send you my congratulations, and best wishes to you on such a special occasion," the card read. "Elizabeth Regina."

She said: "Makes me feel quite tearful. Aren't I honoured? Aren't I lucky?"

Her niece, Sue Beckett, wrote about the surprise on the BBC's online tribute page to the Queen.

She said: "My Aunt, Gwendolyn Betty Hoare, is 100 today. For decades she talked about receiving a telegram from the Queen and was devastated to hear the news ... but her telegram arrived and she was ecstatic."

The oldest recipient of a birthday message from the Queen was a Canadian man who turned 116 in December 1984.



Gwendolyn Hoare said she felt lucky to have received a birthday message

News Queen Elizabeth II

Biden can bring his Beast – but

Oliver Wright Policy Editor

President Biden will have dispensation to take his armoured Beast to Westminster Abbey for the Queen's funeral next week, while lesser world leaders will have to make do with a shared bus.

A unprecedented logistical and diplomatic operation is under way to prepare for the largest gathering of foreign dignitaries on British soil since the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965.

More than 100 kings, queens and heads of state are expected to attend Monday's ceremony. However, the influx of dignitaries is proving a logis-

tical and diplomatic headache for the government as officials try to balance the needs of foreign VIPs with the smooth running of the event.

Under plans for the funeral, a representative of every country with which Britain has diplomatic relations will be invited. However, amid fears of gridlock on the roads around Westminster, many have been asked to share buses from an undisclosed location in west London.

There will be notable exceptions: Whitehall sources said Biden, who has confirmed his attendance, would be allowed to travel to the abbey in the president's armoured Cadillac, known

as the Beast, on security grounds.

Other world leaders, including President Macron of France, Emperor Naruhito of Japan and President Herzog of Israel, are also likely to have their own transport, based on security considerations. One government source said it clearly would not be appropriate to ask G7 leaders to "take a bus", but added that dignitaries were being asked to be as flexible as possible.

All countries have been told that their maximum allocation of seats is restricted to the head of state or their representative plus partner. Although the guest list has not been finalised, it is expected that, despite the conflict in

Ukraine, Russia will be represented by its ambassador. North Korea also has a diplomatic presence in London and is expected to be represented. The former colony of Myanmar, with which Britain does not have diplomatic relations, will not be invited.

Monarchs expected to attend include King Philippe and Queen Mathilde of Belgium, King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden, King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima of the Netherlands and King Felipe and Queen Letizia of Spain. Felipe's father Juan Carlos, who abdicated in 2014, will also be in attendance with his wife Sofia. World leaders who have confirmed

their attendance include the prime ministers of New Zealand, Canada and Australia, President Ramaphosa of South Africa and President Steinmeier of Germany. There will be no invitation for most former leaders, such as Donald Trump, with Downing Street saying that "space will be limited".

Leaders are expected to begin arriving in Britain from Friday and time has been set aside on Sunday for them to pay their respects to the Queen as she lies in state in Westminster Hall.

On Sunday evening they have been invited to a reception at Buckingham Palace hosted by the King. Lancaster House has been set aside for leaders to

President Biden, King Felipe and Queen Letizia of Spain, Jacinda Ardern of New Zealand and President Bolsonaro of Brazil are expected to attend but Donald Trump is not invited



Downing St urges nation to fall silent together on Sunday at 8pm

Oliver Wright

At 8pm on Sunday the nation will observe a minute's silence to mourn the death of the Queen and to remember her life of service to the country, Downing Street said yesterday.

The mark of respect, before the funeral on Monday, will be a moment for the country to "come together".

Downing Street said that locally arranged vigils would be encouraged and that the government would support community groups, clubs and

other organisations looking to hold events. Liz Truss and other senior members of the government are expected to hold their own vigils, which her spokesman said would provide the country with a "moment of reflection".

"At 8pm on Sunday, September 18, the night before the state funeral, there will be a one-minute silence where the public are invited to come together and observe a national moment of reflection to mourn and reflect on the life and legacy of Queen Elizabeth II," he said.

"The silence can be marked privately

at home on your own or with friends and neighbours, out on your doorstep or street with neighbours, or at any locally arranged community events and vigils. We encourage local community groups, clubs and other organisations to mark this moment of reflection. And if you are overseas, people are encouraged to mark the silence at their local time.

"The shared national moment of reflection is an opportunity for everyone across the UK to mark the death of Her Majesty and we will set out details

of where the prime minister will mark it closer to that time."

Truss is due to attend a reception at Buckingham Palace on Sunday night, along with well over 100 heads of state who have been invited to the funeral on Monday.

It is likely that the silence will coincide with that event and will allow those attending to publicly pay tribute to the monarch.

It will be the first opportunity for the whole nation to mark the death of the Queen in a silent ceremony, usually associated with Armistice Day, when a two-minute silence is observed for those who died in the line of duty.

This was put in place by George V, the Queen's grandfather, who in a statement in *The Times* said it would "afford an opportunity for the universal expression" of "great deliverance" from the "world-wide carnage" of the First

World War "and of those who laid down their lives to achieve it".

"During that time, except in the rare cases where this may be impracticable, all work, all sound, and all locomotion should cease, so that, in perfect stillness, the thoughts of everyone may be concentrated on reverent remembrance of the glorious dead," he wrote.

"At a given signal, which could easily be arranged to suit the circumstances of each locality, I believe that we shall all gladly interrupt our business and pleasure, whatever it may be, and unite in this simple service of silence and remembrance."

In 1936 two minutes' silence was observed while his coffin was brought to the crypt of St George's Chapel, Windsor. The country also marked the death of George VI in a similar manner in 1952. In 1965 the country fell silent for Sir Winston Churchill's funeral.

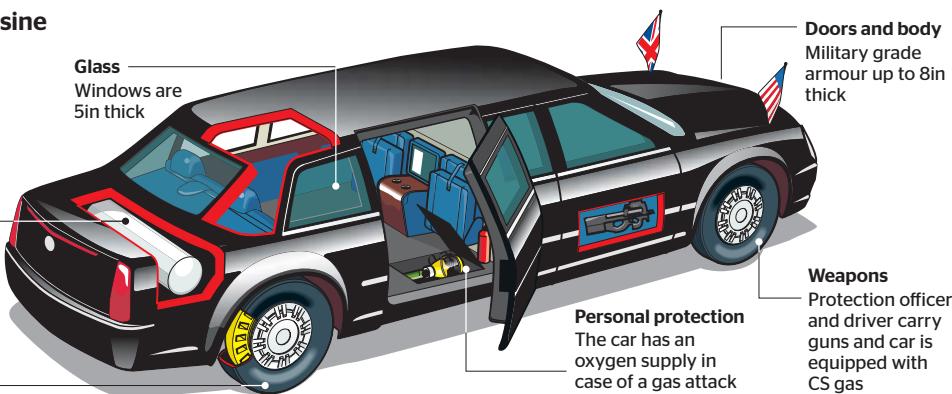
other dignitaries face taking bus

The Beast limousine

- Make Cadillac
- Top speed 60mph
- Engine 6.6 litre V8
- Cost \$1.5m
- Length 18ft

Fuel tank
Bullet and blast-proof. Car runs on diesel

Wheels
Tyres have a solid core, so will run if damaged



sign an official condolence book; they also will be able to deliver a tribute to the late Queen lasting up to three minutes, which will be recorded for the media.

After the service there will be two receptions. The first, with members of the royal family, will take place at Windsor Castle after the procession of the Queen from Westminster Abbey to St George's chapel at Windsor. The guest list for this event is likely to include only the heads of state from the Commonwealth and realms, alongside key UK allies such as the United States.

A second-tier event will take place in Church House for other leaders that

also will include senior government ministers alongside diplomats.

Liz Truss, the prime minister, is expected to greet Biden, Macron and other members of the G7 "informally" during their visits.

Many of those who are expected to attend need to be in New York the following day for the 77th United Nations general assembly. Leaders have been asked, where possible, to arrive and leave the UK on commercial flights, but many are expected to take their own jets. The diplomatic arrangements are being led by the Foreign Office in conjunction with No 10 and the Cabinet Office.

WHO'S ON THE GUEST LIST?

As the Queen's coffin made its long journey from Balmoral to Edinburgh before setting off for London, heads of state around the world were busy planning a journey too.

Some, like President Putin, while expressing condolences, ruled themselves out of travelling to Britain for a funeral like no other in living memory. Others, like President Xi, are unlikely to make the trip after going almost three years without leaving China.

Donald Trump, meanwhile, is not expected to be invited as he is not a current head of state.

President Biden was among the first to declare he would travel to Westminster Abbey, which can hold up to 2,200 people.

Here are some of those who will be in attendance on Monday morning:

US President Biden

Australia Anthony Albanese, prime minister

Canada Justin Trudeau, prime minister

Spain King Felipe and Queen Letizia

New Zealand Jacinda Ardern, prime minister

Japan Emperor Naruhito

South Korea President Yoon

Germany President Steinmeier

Turkey President Erdogan

Italy President Mattarella

European Commission President von der Leyen

Brazil President Bolsonaro

Israel President Herzog

South Africa President Ramaphosa

Austria President van der Bellen

Lithuania President Nausėda

Sri Lanka President Wickremesinghe

Belgium King Philippe and Queen Mathilde

Poland President Duda

Monaco Prince Albert II and Princess Charlene



World leaders will be charged by NHS if they fall ill

Eleanor Hayward
Health Correspondent

World leaders flying in for the Queen's funeral will have to pay to use the NHS if they fall ill, official guidance states.

Hospitals have been urged to charge "foreign dignitaries and VIPs" for healthcare under national NHS guidance for the mourning period.

Tourists and visitors from outside the European Union have to pay for NHS services, with the exception of treatment in A&E and GP appointments.

NHS managers in England have been issued with a reminder to recoup fees for care from overseas visitors as thousands fly in to pay their respects to

Queen Elizabeth. Sir David Sloman, chief operating officer at NHS England, wrote to all organisations: "Have a method of identifying overseas visitors, including foreign dignitaries and VIPs, and ensure that those not entitled to free healthcare at the point of use are charged appropriately."

Hundreds of world leaders, accompanied by staff and their families, are preparing to travel to Britain ahead of Monday's funeral. Representatives of the 56 Commonwealth nations will attend, including Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand's prime minister, and Anthony Albanese, her Australian counterpart. President Biden, President Macron and Emperor Naruhito of Japan are also fly-

ing in, among others. The international guests will be taken by bus to the funeral from west London owing to "tight security and road restrictions".

Although heads of state such as Biden travel with their own medical teams, some dignitaries — as well as thousands of foreign tourists — will rely on the NHS if they fall ill.

The letter sets out a series of additional factors that NHS trusts should take note of because of the Queen's death. This includes expecting more demand for mental health services as "some patients may be destabilised by the death of Queen Elizabeth II and require additional support", noting that "as former head of the armed forces,

[the Queen] is of particular significance to the armed forces community".

NHS leaders in London have been placed on high alert to deal with mourners falling ill while queuing for hours waiting to see the Queen lying in state. Paramedics are to be diverted to London from other parts of the country as millions of mourners descend on the capital in the run-up to the funeral.

Ambulance services have been told to prepare for gridlocked roads as a result of mass gatherings to mark the funeral. The guidance warns hospital trusts to be prepared for "associated risks that come with large crowds".

NHS trusts have been told to ensure that patients still have access to urgent

care, including out-of-hours appointments, if GP surgeries close for the Queen's funeral bank holiday.

GPs and pharmacies also have been urged to continue with the Covid-19 vaccination booster programme.

Doctors say that the last-minute bank holiday will lead to cancelled appointments as staff take the day off. Helen Salisbury, a GP in Oxford, said: "Loads of patients booked in so what to do? Implore staff to work and pay extra? Reschedule and delay?"

National NHS guidance warned that the death of the Queen could add to existing hospital backlogs because of an increase in missed and cancelled appointments.

News Queen Elizabeth II

Rumbustious little sister who became a confidante

The Princess Royal stands ready to advise her big brother whenever he needs, reports Valentine Low

The King is never short of wise counsel. From the moment he acceded to the throne, he has been surrounded by a team of trusted advisers, many of whom have worked for him for years. But there is one person to whom he will turn for guidance and support that he has known very nearly all his life — his sister, the Princess Royal.

Princess Anne was often seen as a rival to Charles when he was Prince of Wales, vying with him to be the hardest-working member of the family. Away from the public eye, however, they have a warm relationship that has grown closer in recent years.

Anne, 72, who despite her dedication to duty is a sometimes-overlooked member of the royal family, has played a pivotal role in the past few days. She and Prince Charles, as he still was, were the only two members of Queen Elizabeth's immediate family to have been at her side during her last hours at Balmoral Castle. On Sunday, in accordance with her mother's wishes, she was in a car directly behind the Queen's hearse during the six-hour journey from Balmoral to Edinburgh.

Anne and Charles are much closer to each other than to their other siblings. Although the Queen had four children, there was a ten-year age gap between Charles and Anne and then Andrew and Edward. Anne is 21 months younger than Charles and they grew up the closest of siblings, even though they

were very different characters. While Charles was a sensitive child, Anne was always a much more rumbustious figure.

It was not always easy. Sally Bedell Smith, a royal biographer, said: "As children they spent an enormous amount of time together. Anne was a bit of a bully, even though she was two years younger. She was very much her father's daughter and gave him a hard time from time to time."

Anne has also disagreed publicly with Charles. She differs from him on the subject of subjects such as genetically modified food, to which Charles is strongly opposed. She also publicly disagreed with the portrayal in Jonathan Dimbleby's biography of the King, which portrayed their parents as cold and distant.

Dimbleby wrote: "Though he was too proud to admit it, the prince still craved the affection and appreciation that his father and his mother seemed unable or unwilling to proffer."

Anne swiftly denied it, saying in an interview: "I simply don't believe that there is any evidence whatsoever to suggest that she wasn't caring. It just beggars belief... I don't believe that any of us, for a second, thought she didn't care for us in exactly the same way as any other mother did."

One source who knows the King well said: "The King and his sister have a close relationship, perhaps closer than people may realise. When you see them together, while they are very close, she absolutely respects his position — previously as Prince of Wales and now as King. And she recognises that there is a really important role for her if called upon to support him."

"My sense is that he will want to continue to have her around as a working member of the royal family, not least because, with the passing of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, before her there is a significant amount of work which is to be redeployed or will have to stop. There is a real need for her support."

As well as being a hard-working member of the royal family, who shares Charles's energy and work ethic, she has a unique bond with him. "She can also provide him with a unique supporting role as a sister, someone who has grown up with him, is almost the same age as him, with similar experiences to him. There is almost no one else who can fill that experiential role. She provides a trusted sounding board from someone he knows has absolutely no agenda other than the greater good. They share a sense of duty and service. And, as a brother and sister, they will probably give each other a bit of comfort at this time. She is a totally trusted adviser."

Penny Junor, the royal writer, believes they may



Princess Anne was quick to defend the Queen against suggestions that she was a cold and distant parent, saying that the



THE QUEEN IN NUMBERS

19,700
engagements since 1979

117
countries visited

1,032,513
miles covered (42 journeys around the circumference of the earth)

307,000
100th birthday messages sent

927,000
60th wedding anniversary messages sent

3.75m
letters received during her reign

90,000
Christmas puddings given to staff

14
US presidents during her reign

15
British prime ministers in office during her reign

30
corgis owned, but there may have been more

24
life-size wax models at Madame Tussauds

237
streets in Britain named after her

have become closer over the years. "They live in the same part of the country, but I think they have different friends and move in different circles. And they are two very different people. I remember being told that Camilla was terrified of Anne."

"And with good reason. Anne can be very sharp. She can also be lovely. She is also a marvellous worker and really pulls her weight. But she is quite a tricky character. I think Camilla has lost her fear of Anne now."

Anne does not share Charles's passion for the arts and music, "but they are brother and sister. They have had the Andrew thing to get through together. And the chances are that now they are older and mellower they may very well be close. And without either of their parents, I would have thought they are even closer. The relationship is probably closer now than it may have been over the years."



idea "just beggars belief"; the princess has played a pivotal role in recent days

Big chain stores to be closed all day on funeral bank holiday

Andrew Ellison
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Some of the biggest shops will close on the day of the Queen's funeral, even though they could stay open.

Yesterday Tesco, Sainsbury's and Aldi became the latest to tell shoppers that they would close on Monday, a bank holiday. Primark and John Lewis will not open their doors either.

A few Tesco Express stores in central London and Windsor will be open, however. Sainsbury's said it would shut its main supermarkets and Argos shop, but would keep convenience stores and petrol stations open in the evening.

Harrods will also close, as will Homebase, WH Smith, B&Q, Primark, Ikea and Blue Diamond garden centres.

In another mark of respect for the Queen, the supermarket chain Morrisons has turned down the volume of beeps at its tills. Yet the decision appears to have bewildered shoppers and delayed some customers using the self-service checkouts, with many not hearing the beeps and assuming the tills were broken. Shoppers have taken to the internet to complain about longer queues in store as a result.

One tweeted: "I was standing in the queue for self-service for what felt like an eternity as everyone in front of me struggled. I did what all Brits do and patiently became impatient, wondering why everyone was struggling to scan.

"It wasn't until it was my turn that I found out they had turned off the beep. One of the assistants came over when I

The 'floral tribute' with a twist from poet laureate

David Sanderson Arts Correspondent

With a lily of the valley, a computer malfunction and nights without sleep, the poet laureate has conjured an acrostic in memory of the Queen.

Simon Armitage has composed an 18-line poem *Floral Tribute*, which focuses on one of Elizabeth II's favourite flowers. He began the work on Thursday after his original thoughts on a suitable poem were lost when his computer crashed two months ago.

Armitage said last night that he had begun the poem, in the form of a double acrostic with the initial letters of each line spelling out Elizabeth, on a train from Durham after an event was cancelled because of her death.

He said that after being appointed poet laureate in 2019 and being told "momentous events" were likely to happen, he had begun making "a few notes for a poem on this theme" of Her Majesty's death. His computer crashed, however, erasing his original file.

"I took it as an omen that whatever I had written wouldn't work and I needed to start again," he said. "I've not had much sleep though."

The poet laureate, the seventh of the Queen's reign, said he had devised the acrostic while on the train, with the subtle spelling out of Elizabeth allowing him to be "personal without being too personal... I wanted to encode the Queen's name in the poem. I was also thinking about the first Elizabethan period and the poems of the period, which often had these signs and signals written into them."

He recalled from his lost computer file that he had pinpointed the lily of the valley — a flower in bouquets at the Queen's coronation and wedding — and hoped it would give him "a route" into the poem. *Floral Tribute* completes

FLORAL TRIBUTE BY SIMON ARMITAGE

*Evening will come, however determined the late afternoon,
Limes and oaks in their last green flush, pearly in September mist.
I have conjured a lily to light these hours, a token of thanks,
Zones and auras of soft glare framing the brilliant globes.
A promise made and kept for life — that was your gift —
Because of which, here is a gift in return, glovewort to some,
Each shining bonnet guarded by stern lance-like leaves.
The country loaded its whole self into your slender hands,
Hands that can rest, now, relieved of a century's weight.*

*Evening has come. Rain on the black lochs and dark Munros.
Lily of the Valley, a namesake almost, a favourite flower
Interlaced with your famous bouquets, the
Zeal and forceful grace of its lanterns, each inflorescence
A silent bell disguising a singular voice. A blurred new day
Breaks uncrowned on remote peaks and public parks, and
Everything turns on these luminous petals and deep roots,
This lily that thrives between spire and tree, whose brightness
Holds and glows beyond the life and border of its bloom.*

a trilogy of poems Armitage has written for the three "momentous events" he was warned about when appointed.

In June he published the seven-stanza *Queenhood* for the Platinum Jubilee, while he wrote *The Patriarchs — An Elegy* in memory of the Duke of Edinburgh last year.

When publishing *Queenhood*, Armitage said he had enjoyed the "challenge" of creating royal verse, unlike William Wordsworth, one of his predecessors, who did not pen a single "official" line.

The Queen's first poet laureate was John Masefield, who was appointed in

1930 by George V and remained until 1967, being followed by Cecil Day-Lewis, John Betjeman, Ted Hughes, Andrew Motion and Carol Ann Duffy.

Last year Armitage presented a haiku on his Radio 4 programme, *The Poet Laureate Has Gone to His Shed*. Armitage said it took him a week to write the three-line, 17-syllable poem.

When asked about the difference in time for the composition of the haiku and *Floral Tribute*, Armitage replied: "What is it they say? 'Sorry I have written you such a long letter, I didn't have time to write you a short one.'"

'Hunky' equerry and the dancing Queen

Kaya Burgess

The "hunky" equerry pictured alongside the King at all his big engagements since acceding to the throne has shared memories of washing dishes with the Queen and of preparing soldiers for the prospect of dancing with her.

Major Jonny Thompson, of the 5th Battalion Royal Regiment of Scotland, was at the King's side for his first public walkabout outside Buckingham Palace on Friday, during the meeting of the Accession Council on Saturday and at Westminster Hall yesterday. He was

present during Liz Truss's first audience with the King and during his flight from London to Edinburgh yesterday — and has been described as a "hunky dude" on social media.

Thompson recalled an invitation from the Queen at Balmoral, telling the BBC: "One evening, myself and my wife, we were invited to one of the bothies on the estates to dine with Her Majesty. She straight away would start making the salad dressing, setting the table and the night culminated with me doing the washing up alongside her, which is a lovely memory." He said the

Queen had an "ability to find commonality with anybody", adding: "Typically, during summer in Balmoral, the sovereign will host two *Ghillies* Balls.

"The ball consists of, naturally, Highland dancing and there's every possibility that the soldiers could end up dancing with the Queen and naturally we have to prepare them for that, so we don't look the fool."

"That personal interaction was something that provided a lot of nerves for the soldiers, a lot of excitement, but it's memories that they will take with them for the rest of their lives."

Big chain stores to be closed all day on funeral bank holiday

is over, it's customary for a local Scout troop to be called in to turn the sound back on. Hence the motto: 'Beep Repaired'

Another posted: "What, you don't remember Auden's famous lines? 'Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone, prevent the self-serve scanners from triggering a beeping tone.'

Other organisations have come under scrutiny for their reactions to the Queen's death. Tesco has been mocked online for putting up memorial posters for the Queen above a whisky display and a stack of baked beans.

Norwich council put a notice on a bike rack saying it was closed for the duration of the official period of mourning. The notice had failed to explain that the cycle rack was within

an area outside City Hall where people could leave flowers. A spokesman said: "To clear up any misunderstanding, we've replaced the signs with new ones to make things a little clearer."

The Met Office also had to issue a clarification after its official Twitter account suggested that it would issue only daily weather forecasts during the period of mourning. It later said it meant it would "pause other non-operational content".

David Bowie's Twitter account also raised eyebrows when it posted the message: "Out of respect for the people of the UK and Queen Elizabeth II, we will be postponing the 'Bowie on the Blockchain' sale." A new date for the auction of non-fungible tokens, items of digital art, has not yet been set.

News Queen Elizabeth II

King warned he could face rush

Catherine Philp
Diplomatic Correspondent

Commonwealth nations could make "a rush for the door" to leave the association or replace the British monarch as head of state after the Queen's death, an expert has predicted.

After the prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda declared this week that he would go ahead with a referendum on becoming a republic, Professor Philip Murphy, director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, suggested that others might soon follow suit.

"A movement had already started before she died," he said. It is being fuelled by "a combination of things like the Black Lives Matter movement, the Windrush scandal and the growing momentum behind the move for reparations for slavery and colonialism".

The Commonwealth, formed in 1949, was in its infancy when the Queen took the throne in 1952, a gathering of only seven postcolonial nations. It has since swelled to 56 members across Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Pacific. Four years ago the King was nominated by his mother to succeed her, after two years of official lobbying.

Murphy, the author of a critical book on the Commonwealth entitled *The Empire's New Clothes*, was dismissive of the association's impact on global affairs. "If you want to write a history of the world of international relations, certainly since the 1990s, you would be hard pressed to find a reason to mention the Commonwealth," he said. "The Commonwealth is so insubstantial it doesn't have any impact at all, and no one would notice if it disappeared tomorrow, in terms of its practical effects."

Antigua, a former British colony that declared independence in 1981, is among 16 countries, or "realms", with the British monarch as head of state where republican calls are growing.

When William and Catherine, now the Prince and Princess of Wales, visited Jamaica this year its prime minister told them that it would shortly seek to become a republic. Other nations likely to consider the question include Barbados, the Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Papua New Guinea, St Lucia, the Solomon Islands, St Kitts and Nevis and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

In the case of several countries that retained the Queen as head of state, the association is so specific that their constitutions will need to be rewritten to accept King Charles III in the role. It is thought that some may decide it is not worth renewing their commitment.

CLUB FACES IRRELEVANCE

Affection for the Queen has done much to hold together an alliance whose other purpose looks unclear (Catherine Philp writes).

The Commonwealth was essentially the Queen's creation. It contains many members whose values are at odds with the "mother" country. The diver Tom Daley complained at this year's Commonwealth Games about the attitudes of many member states towards gay rights. Several still criminalise homosexuality.

Britain has been unable to rely on much solidarity from the Commonwealth in international forums. India, South Africa and Pakistan all abstained in a vote in March on a British-backed UN resolution demanding an end to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

To most member countries, the Queen was the Commonwealth. Now she is gone, the parameters have shifted. More countries will shed the British monarch as head of state, even if they stay within "the club" out of sentiment. Rather than disintegrate, the Commonwealth may suffer a different fate: irrelevance.

However, the prime ministers of Australia and New Zealand have ruled out referendums on the monarchy in the immediate future. Although Jacinda Ardern, the New Zealand prime minister, suggested yesterday that it would eventually become a republic, and probably in her lifetime, she said her government had more pressing issues.

Anthony Albanese, Australia's prime minister, said on Friday that he would not pursue questions of constitutional change unless he were re-elected, out of "deep respect and admiration" for the Queen.

Gaston Browne, Antigua's prime minister, told ITV News that the Caribbean nation could hold a referendum within three years but insisted his words were not linked to the Queen's death. "The question was put to me about republicanism and I did not dodge it," he told *The Times*. "I said, yes, we have already announced several years ago to turn into a republic."

Think of the monarch as civil servant in chief, Hugo Rifkind, page 29



President Zelensky, whose troops have recovered large areas of territory in a lightning counteroffensive, leaves a message

Q&A

When the period of mourning for the Queen has concluded, thoughts will turn to Operation Golden Orb, the plan for Charles III's coronation. The rough plan has been in place for more than a decade. It will be the first coronation for 70 years. Westminster Abbey has hosted every coronation since 1066.

What is the coronation?
A coronation is more than the moment where the crown physically passes to the new monarch. A prince does not have to have a coronation to become king. Edward VIII did not have one before his abdication in

1936. At the coronation, the King will make his oaths and will be anointed with oil as God's chosen monarch and supreme governor of the Church of England. In 1953, the moment of anointing was deemed too sacred to be broadcast on television. The coronation will be only the seventh such event in the past 200 years. In that time, Britain has had more solar eclipses.

When will it be?
There is no date set. Historically, they have taken more than a year to organise, but 21st-century technology is likely to accelerate that. Sources have said there is a desire to have a coronation as quickly as possible, perhaps in the spring. Every coronation since George III

has taken place between May and September.

Will it be a bank holiday?
It is expected to be a bank holiday, as it was for the last coronation. This should be the last in a long run of public holidays, after the Queen's jubilees and funeral. There probably will not be another royal bank holiday until the death of the King or the wedding of Prince George.

What happened at the Queen's coronation?
The coronation on June 2, 1953, was a key moment in postwar Britain. Three million people came to London for the day. It was the first coronation to be televised, a decision taken at the Queen's insistence. It is estimated that 27 million

people watched the service in the UK. It lasted three hours and 8,000 dignitaries attended. Guests wore traditional robes and, when the Queen was crowned, put on coronets.

How will Charles's coronation differ?
King Charles is keen on a pared-back monarchy and his coronation will embody that. It will last less than 90 minutes and will be less formal.

What about the Queen Consort?
The King's wife also will be crowned during the ceremony as his Queen Consort, just as the late Queen's mother was at the coronation of George VI. A consort shares the rank and status of their spouse.

Truss has narrow

Henry Zeffman
Associate Political Editor

Liz Truss will announce plans to cut taxes and tackle the cost of living crisis before the end of the month.

The prime minister's plans for her first weeks in office, including an emergency fiscal event, have been disrupted by the period of national mourning.

Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng, the chancellor, had promised to unveil tax cuts in a fiscal statement within weeks. She has yet to complete the appointment of her government ministers, with junior ministerial positions in many departments unfilled.

Preparations for the fiscal event come as Kwarteng and Truss consider candidates to replace Sir Tom Scholar, the former Treasury permanent secretary. Scholar was sacked by the chancellor last week in their first meeting. Truss is determined to overhaul

"Treasury orthodoxy", of which the government believed Scholar, who had held the role since 2016, to be a symbol.

The sacking has been decried by former civil servants, who fear the service's political neutrality is being undermined.

The prime minister's official spokesman said yesterday that the government still intended to hold its fiscal event "this month".

Truss announced last Thursday that her government proposed to reduce energy bills and ease the cost of living crisis by capping energy prices, lifting the ban on fracking and issuing new licences for North Sea oil and gas.

Shortly after she finished unveiling her plans in the Commons, however, Buckingham Palace said in a statement that the Queen was under medical supervision at Balmoral.

Under existing plans, there is a narrow window for the fiscal event. The

for the Commonwealth door



in a book of condolence in Kyiv, flanked by the UK and Ukraine flags. How Kyiv gained the edge by deception, pages 32, 33

window for a 'fiscal event'

Commons will not sit again until September 20 at the earliest, the day after the Queen's funeral. It is due to rise again on September 22 for the Labour and Conservative party conferences. MPs will not return to Westminster until October 17.

There are no plans at present to change that timetable or to cancel the conferences, but senior figures in both parties have held preliminary discussions to consider their options. The Liberal Democrats have cancelled their conference, which was due to coincide with the funeral on Monday.

A further complicating



Liz Truss intends to speak in New York next week

factor is that Truss is to visit New York for the United Nations general assembly next week, with a speech pencilled in on the Wednesday. There have been suggestions Truss might use the trip to hold a meeting with President Biden, either at the White House or in New York.

During her campaign for the Conservative leadership, Truss vowed repeatedly to reduce taxes. She has said she will overturn the national insurance rise and cancel the planned rise in corporation tax.

Rishi Sunak, the former chancellor beaten by Truss in the party leadership race, said during the campaign that her plans

would fuel inflation and put the UK's public finances in "serious jeopardy".

In her first prime minister's questions last week, she resisted Sir Keir Starmer's calls for a further windfall tax on energy companies. She insisted to do so would put companies "off investing in the United Kingdom". Truss cast herself as a low-tax Conservative, saying that "the reality is that this country will not be able to tax its way to growth... The way we will grow our economy is by attracting investment, keeping taxes low and delivering the reforms to build projects quicker."

Truss was in Scotland yesterday and will attend church services in Wales and Northern Ireland to mark the start of the King's reign. Tory MPs say they do not know when ministerial appointments will recommence. Appointments must be approved by the King. PM was right to sack Tom Scholar, Thunderer, page 28

Edward 'should become the Duke of Edinburgh'

Jack Malvern

King Charles has yet to declare who will take the title of Duke of Edinburgh but it is expected to go to his brother Edward, Earl of Wessex.

A royal commentator said that although the title is vacant, the delay should not be interpreted as the King deliberating over who should have it.

Dickie Arbiter, former press spokesman for the Queen, said that the title is in the King's gift, but it would be hard for him to ignore his late parents' wish for Edward to receive it. "It's up to the King but he will probably follow his father's wishes and his mother's wishes that ultimately it goes to Edward. It's just exercising a bit of patience. It was Prince Philip's express wish, and it was

the Queen who endorsed it, that it should ultimately go to Edward and it's up to the King as to when."

Philip held the title from 1947 until his death last year, when it passed to Charles, who never used it and it merged with the crown upon his accession to the throne.

In 1999, when Edward was made Earl of Wessex, Buckingham Palace said that he would receive the title of duke when Prince Philip and the Queen died. Edward said that he was aware that the title was not his by default.

The King is known to prefer the idea of a "slimmed-down monarchy" and could give the title to a royal higher in the line of succession. A smaller royal family would be more in line with other European monarchies.

TMS

diary@thetimes.co.uk | @timesdiary

Backing the wrong horse

The Queen was famously a shrewd judge of a racehorse. One of my predecessors as Times Diary editor knows this to his cost since he bought a second-hand nag off her that might have been better sent to the glue factory. Michael Leapman, who wrote this column in the 1970s, clubbed together with a couple of friends 25 years ago to buy a gelding bred by the Queen called Renown. "He might not win the Derby," Lord Huntingdon, the Queen's trainer, told them, "but you'll have a lot of fun with him." This turned out to be trainer-speak for "never win enough to cover his training fees". A few months later, Huntingdon hosted a stable visit for the owners and the Queen turned up. "This is the chap who took Renown off our hands," he told her. "Ah yes!" the Queen replied. "Renown!" And she gave Leapman what he can only describe as a "royal smirk".

BOUGHT FOR A SONG
The Queen was shrewder about horses than her mother was about art. A new biography by Sir Charles Saumarez Smith of John Wonnacott discusses the portrait the painter did of the Queen Mother in 1999. It was an

enjoyable assignment, punctuated by regular breaks for "a little drinkee" or "a little sarnie", during which she would show off her art collection. Wonnacott says the Queen Mother proudly boasted that she had bought a Cézanne for a mere £60. What a bargain! An equerry later set the artist straight: £60 was just the shipping cost.

Good to see another entry for our long-running Apt Names series in the order of service for the King's address to parliament.

The principal doorkeeper, responsible for controlling access to the Commons, is called Phil Howse.

TAKE THE BULL BY THE HORNS

The Queen's royal engagements often provided her with quite an education. The Times Diary reported that on a tour of an artificial insemination unit with Sir Richard Trehane, chairman of the Milk Marketing Board, the Queen had spied a curious object in a jar. "What on earth is that?" she asked. Pausing a second, perhaps to wonder how his life had come to discussing bovine genitalia with the monarch, Trehane informed her awkwardly that it was a cow's vagina. "Oh well," the Queen replied jauntily. "Ask a silly question!"

"One-take Windsor" — that's what they called the star of such films as Christmas Message 1952 et seq. The Queen was proud of getting it right first time and disliked people wasting her time with reshoots. One year she fixed a particularly pernickety director with a hard stare, perhaps one learnt from a Peruvian friend, and reminded him that her early broadcasts were all done live. "Have you ever done live broadcasting?" she asked pointedly.

KNOWING THE DRILL

The film-maker Jamie Muir tells Tom Holland's history podcast that his father, the humorist Frank, had tea at the palace in the 1960s and discussed with Her Majesty the growing impact on people's lives of commercial television. The Queen admitted that even she was not immune to

the power of advertising. "If I had to buy a drill," she told him, "I would buy a Black and Decker." Coincidentally, Muir, left, met the head of the power tools company a few months later and gleefully told him: "I've got you the best slogan that you can never use."

PATRICK KIDD



P&O Cruises and its staff both ashore and at sea express deep sadness at the news of the death of Her Majesty The Queen.

Her Majesty will forever be remembered at P&O Cruises not least for the fact that she named two of the company's ships, Oriana and Britannia.

P&O Cruises joins the UK and nations around the world in expressing our deep sympathy at the death of Her Majesty and we extend sincere condolences to The Royal Family.



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Musk's student love sells her mementoes

Elon Musk's university sweetheart is auctioning off mementoes from her time with the man who would become the world's wealthiest person (Keiran Southern writes).

Jennifer Gwynne began dating Musk in 1994 while they were at the University of Pennsylvania, before the Tesla chief executive moved to Silicon Valley and made his fortune. She said she was selling the mementoes to help to fund her stepson's college tuition.

A 23-year-old Musk is pictured smiling in the college dormitory while wearing a Judge Dredd T-shirt, in tribute to the comic book character who inspired a film starring

Sylvester Stallone. Musk, who studied physics and economics at the university, was photographed lying on the floor with his feet on a desk. In a more serious picture, he and Gwynne are embracing on a couch.

In other pictures Musk, now 51, was seen visiting Niagara Falls and hiking a trail in San Francisco.

The pictures, being sold at an auction handled by the Boston-based RR Auction, have attracted bids of hundreds of dollars. Bidding ends tomorrow.

A photograph of Musk sitting at a computer has drawn a bid of more than \$1,350 (£1,150).



The most popular item so far, however, is a handwritten birthday card from Musk to Gwynne. "Happy birthday

Jennifer (aka. Boo-Boo)," it reads. "Love Elon." The top bid on the card is more than \$10,000.

A gold necklace given

to Gwynne by Musk and featuring an emerald from one of his father's mines in South Africa is also for sale. It has attracted a bid just shy

of \$6,000.

Gwynne told DailyMail.com that she and Musk had broken up in 1995 when he moved to California, with the businessman blaming the difficulties of maintaining a long-distance relationship. He is now worth an estimated \$219 billion, according to Forbes.

Musk, with his girlfriend Jennifer Gwynne, was 23 when the pictures were taken. A birthday card, above, is also for sale

of \$6,000.

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Parents' pain at dead son, 16, groomed by drug gang

Mark Branagan, David Brown

A 16-year-old boy who was groomed by drug dealers was questioned by Special Branch officers a few months before he was found dead, an inquest was told yesterday.

The parents of Ben Nelson-Roux said that he became the victim of "unspeakable evil of grooming and exploitation" by drug dealers. He was forced to settle drug debts by dealing class A drugs after he started smoking cannabis to "self medicate" for mental health issues at age 12.

Ben was found dead by Kate Roux, his mother, at a homeless hostel for adults in April 2020. Roux, 47, said: "If you had met Ben before he started to spiral you would be blown away. He was interesting, charming. It's really scary to see that someone else has got into your child's head and your child is no longer thinking clearly."

Barry Nelson, Ben's father, added: "It's terrible that we live in a country where a kid who appears to have such a safety net can still be so vulnerable."



Ben Nelson-Roux had ADHD and took cannabis to help him cope

He was reported missing from his home in Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, in December 2019. According to police, Ben disappeared after "a visit from Special Branch officers to discuss some information he had shared with a social worker".

Ben was known to the police, social services and the NHS youth mental

health services. He was recognised as a child in need and victim of criminal exploitation. Roux believes her son was an "easy target" for gangs. Ben denied being a grooming victim despite a notice showing he was "on police radar" as being exploited.

On the day of Ben's death a child protection strategy meeting was held. By that time Ben was living at Cavendish House, a hostel for single homeless adults in Harrogate, the inquest in Northallerton was told. His social worker did not feel that it was a suitable place for a child and his family thought he would be safer at home.

His mother went to collect him for a Skype interview with his psychologist and found him dead in bed. There were no injuries and no suspicious circumstances, except cannabis, cocaine, tablets, white powder and empty bottles of alcohol in the room. Toxicology tests showed he had taken drugs, including cocaine, Ecstasy and diazepam, but in low levels unlikely to have caused his death.

The inquest continues.

Search for Olivia gun at golf course

Fiona Hamilton
Crime and Security Editor

Detectives investigating the murder of nine-year-old Olivia Pratt-Korbel are searching a golf course for the guns used in last month's shooting.

Merseyside Police is using drones and divers to search land at West Derby Golf Club a few minutes drive from the child's home in Liverpool.

Olivia was shot in the chest on August 22 in what is believed to be a botched gangland killing when a gunman, chasing another man, fired indiscriminately into her home.

Detectives say the balaclava-clad attacker used two firearms that have not been located. Detectives have

arrested and bailed nine men in connection with the incident.

Fifty officers were involved in the search of the golf course yesterday, three weeks since the schoolgirl's death. Underwater divers, trained search officers and a drone unit were scouring the area.

Detective Chief Superintendent Mark Kameen said the search was carried out after police had received information relating to the case. "My message to the offender is clear," he said. "We will not stop until we have the evidence to put you before the courts and behind bars."

"Olivia's family are absolutely broken by her tragic loss, which has robbed a beautiful young child of the

life and future she should have been looking forward to.

"She was an innocent young child in her own home, who should have been safe." He appealed for anyone with information to come forward.

Sergeant Gary Sorrell, describing the search, said: "It is an open land-based search, utilising search-trained officers, the underwater search team, dog officers, off-road bikes and our aerial assets." Police could be seen searching a stream that runs through the golf course, as well as bushes and undergrowth in the area.

Anyone with information is asked to contact @MerPolCC on Twitter or to call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Water colours Canaletto's Venice, the Grand Canal looking East with Santa Maria della Salute is set to fetch up to \$10 million at Christie's in New York next month

PAUL QUEZADA-NEIMAN/ALAMY LIVE NEWS

Quintagram® No 1419

Solve all five clues using each letter underneath once only

1 Light touch (of snooker balls, eg) (4)

2 Formally excuse (6)

3 Understudy (7)

4 Liberate (7)

5 Virtue (8)

A	A	A	B	D	D	D	E
E	E	E	G	I	K	L	N
N	N	O	O	O	P	R	R
S	S	S	S	S	S	T	Y

Solutions MindGames in Times2
Cryptic clues page 10 of Times2

Raw fish health alert

Pregnant women and elderly people should not eat raw smoked fish because of the risk of listeria, experts said. There have been eight listeria cases in England and Scotland since January, the Food Standards Agency and the UK Health Security Agency found.

Europe offers to cut Northern Ireland checks

Oliver Wright Policy Editor

The European Union will reduce physical checks on goods crossing from Britain to Northern Ireland to a "couple of lorries a day", its chief Brexit negotiator has claimed, as part of a deal to resolve the controversy over the border.

Maros Sefcovic said the EU was ready to work with the UK in an "open and constructive" way to reach a negotiated settlement on the Northern Ireland protocol.

He also insisted that the European Commission was prepared to be flexible, putting forward proposals that would result in "minimum checks, done in an invisible manner".

Because of the death of the Queen, ministers have not publicly responded

to Sefcovic's comments because they say it would be inappropriate. Privately, government officials said there appeared to be "nothing new" to the EU's offer and that it did not address the government's "key concerns" about the operation of the protocol.

"They have done this before," the officials said. "The commission is good at solving problems that are not the problems that we believe need solving. It is good that they are sounding positive, but we are not sure that this represents a tangible step forward."

In an interview with the *Financial Times*, Sefcovic said he was "encouraged" by Liz Truss's comments last week when she spoke of her preference for a negotiated solution to the dispute.

However, she said that such a resolution would have to deliver "all of the

things we set out" in the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill, which is making its way through parliament.

Sefcovic said the EU was "ready to work in an open and constructive and intensive way". He said the trade border



Maros Sefcovic says checks could be heavily reduced

would be "invisible" under Brussels' plans, with goods processed "remotely" while making their way to Northern Ireland, as long as the UK provided real-time data on their movements.

Sefcovic said physical checks typi-

cally would be made only for a "couple of lorries a day", when "there is reasonable suspicion of... illegal trade smuggling, illegal drugs or dangerous toys or poisoned food".

Micheál Martin, the Irish prime minister, said that the commissioner for inter-institutional relations had demonstrated his "desire to be solution-driven" when it came to resolving the diplomatic stand-off over the protocol, which imposes an effective customs and regulatory border in the Irish Sea.

"What Maros Sefcovic is demonstrating is his flexibility, his desire to be solution-driven and what you're witnessing this morning is further solutions, proposed ideas around resolving the protocol issue," he said.

"I spoke with the British PM late last week. It was a preliminary discussion.

We will meet again on these issues. I do believe genuinely there's a view that we should do everything we can to resolve this issue."

He added that the "European Union and the UK really should sort this out so that we can focus on the bigger issues geopolitically that are facing the European Union and UK, who are good partners on these more fundamental issues".

However Sir Jeffrey Donaldson, the DUP leader, said that "renewed negotiations" would probably require "a change of stance" from the EU.

"They need to recognise that, if we are to arrive at a solution, it requires them to accept, and respect, the integrity of the UK, its internal market and Northern Ireland's place within it," he said.



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GIOVANNI GIANONI/GETTY IMAGES; EDUARDO MUÑOZ ALVAREZ/AP

Using your face as a password is easy as abc123

Mark Sellman
Technology Correspondent

It's a digital utopia most people would love to live in, one where forgetting passwords is no longer a problem — because they don't exist. Yesterday millions of people took a step towards this Shangri-La when Apple updated its iOS 16 mobile phone operating system to offer a replacement: the passkey.

The aim is to speed up the login process on websites and apps and to make it more secure. A biometric check such as a fingerprint or face scan will banish the need for usernames, passwords and in some instances extra layers of security. Apple phones have had touch ID since 2013 and face ID from 2017.

Apple, Google and Microsoft put aside rivalries to work together on the

passkey, along with a group called the Fido (Fast Identity Online) alliance, so that they can be used on different devices, browsers and operating systems.

While everyday users will celebrate the end of the "password reset email" that follows the failed login, experts say it will also cut down on fraud. Passkeys are not stored on a central database, putting them out of hackers' reach.

Another big benefit is that passkeys block attempts at phishing, where people are duped into revealing their passwords by fake emails or text messages.

"Passkeys are intrinsically linked to the website or app they were set up for, so users can never be tricked into using their passkey on the wrong website," Ricky Mondello, head of authentication technology at Apple, said.

In addition, with biometrics no one can watch you type your password.

Of 1.6 million computer misuse offences in the year to March, nearly 1.3 million involved unauthorised access to personal information.

The explosion of online fraud has led the government to explore the possibility of requiring all websites to employ "two-factor authentication", in which users must approve logins by other means, such as entering a code sent by text. At present this is required only for financial transactions, but those texts are here to stay — unless banks consider passkeys good enough to replace them.

Steven Furnell, professor of cybersecurity at the University of Nottingham, said the development of passkeys was promising, but their success would depend on websites adopting them.

That could take some time. Users will still need a password for the iCloud keychain, which holds Apple passkeys, or a similar device on Android. Nevertheless, that beats the 80 to 100 passwords each person is estimated to have — more than 100 million of which are still "1234".

Big Tech may finally lift this curse of modern life, leading article, page 31

Q&A

What is a passkey?

Instead of a password, you use a fingerprint or face scan to prove your identity to websites and apps.

How does that work? A passkey is actually a pair of "keys": one is on the website and the other is stored on your device. When you try to log on to a website, you prove your identity. Your private key then proves your identity to the website. No one can pretend to be you without your private key, which is safely stored on your device.

So I'll need my phone or device to log in? Yes, that's the catch.

Can I use my Apple passkey on a Windows device? Not yet, but Apple, Microsoft and Google are working together on this.



Warhol adds to the look at Tommy Hilfiger

The Queen's death may have cast a shadow, but the shows go on at New York Fashion Week (Karen Dacre and Hannah Rogers write).

It wasn't quite business as usual. On Sunday night Tommy Hilfiger offered a back-to-front take on a catwalk presentation. Guests entered via a backstage area and

looked on as models' hair and make-up was primped and powdered in front of their seats. Hilfiger said he wanted to reveal the creative

process behind a

show and had

been inspired by

Andy Warhol's

Factory, where he

was a regular in

his youth.

Hilfiger's shows are always water cooler events, combining It-girl models with the house's preppy style. This season those

present

Ivy League-inspired tailoring impressed at Tommy Hilfiger, while at Fendi, the veteran model Linda Evangelista, below, made a return to the catwalk

included the Native American activist Quannah Chasinghorse and the veteran writer Bob Colacello.

Hilfiger melded the usual in-person event with a Metaverse "experience" online. Tuning in might have been a better option, as the heavens opened during the show on to a crowd who had been kitted out with plastic ponchos in case.

It wasn't exactly singing in the rain at Brooklyn's Skyline Drive-In Theater but there were plenty of drum beats as Travis Barker — Mr Kourtney Kardashian — provided a rather soggy finale. The Blink-182 drummer performed for a celebrity-packed front row

that included the singer-songwriter Shawn Mendes and the model Kate Moss.

The show featured oversized rugby tops, puffer jackets and capes printed with a new monogram motif. Stomping tractor-sole boots, shearling varsity jackets and Ivy League-inspired tailoring were stand-out pieces in a collection that showed the best of the brand.

The designer used the occasion to debut a capsule collection of items from the young Peckham-based designer Richard Quinn, who is known for dressing Amal Clooney in his trademark florals. Quinn hosted the Queen herself at his London Fashion Week show in 2018. His collaboration with Hilfiger includes a monogram faux fur pea coat and £1,000 reversible puffer jacket.

New York's catwalks have been a quiet affair since even before the pandemic, when big names such as Victoria Beckham defected to London and Paris, yet Spring/Summer 2023 has been hailed by insiders as a return to form.

On Saturday night the model Linda Evangelista, 57, closed the Italian label Fendi's show. It was her first catwalk appearance in 15 years after a botched cosmetic procedure left her "disfigured".

The shows continue with Michael Kors tomorrow before the circuit moves to London on Friday.

The British Fashion Council announced at the weekend that parties and dinners would be cancelled and shows due to take place next Monday would be moved. Burberry cancelled its presentation on Saturday night as a mark of respect.

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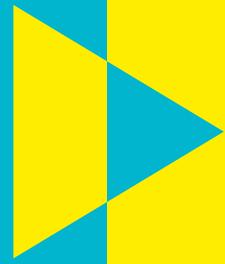


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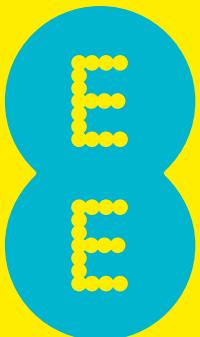


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Horns of plenty The annual Abbots Bromley Horn Dance took place in Staffordshire yesterday, with participants wearing black armbands in memory of the Queen

Imperial shuts labs linked to Beijing firms sanctioned by US

George Greenwood

Imperial College London has closed two research laboratories funded by Chinese defence companies after the government refused to grant export licences for their work.

The move comes after an investigation by *The Times* in February disclosed the scale of collaboration between Imperial, Chinese companies and universities with close ties to Beijing's military.

The labs were run in partnership with big Chinese defence contractors. Aviation Industry Corporation of China sponsored one of the labs, which worked on aerospace design and manufacturing techniques. It has been sanctioned in the United States over its role as one of the largest suppliers of fighter jets to the Chinese air force.

The other lab was sponsored by the Beijing Institute of Aeronautical Materials, which researched high-technology aerospace materials. It is a subsidiary of the Aero Engine Corporation of China, which is sanctioned in America because it is a key supplier of military jet engines.

The Times found that Imperial had accepted £5 million from three US-sanctioned Chinese defence contractors for aerospace research between 2015 and last year. The university accepted £55 million from Chinese companies over the period, out of a sector total of £240 million.

Imperial was the Russell Group university whose academics most commonly collaborated with others at institutions with deep links to the

Behind the story

The decision by Imperial to close the two labs comes as Britain completes a U-turn on its China policy (George Greenwood writes).

David Cameron tried to position Britain as China's gateway to Europe. The government is now reassessing this approach.

China has been accused of attempts to obtain intellectual property to catch up on western military innovations. Security fears led to Huawei, the Chinese technology group, having its equipment stripped out of key UK

communications networks.

In February, a *Times* investigation revealed how reliant universities had become on Chinese cash. They accepted £240 million from Chinese institutions from 2015 to 2021, including £60 million from companies sanctioned in America for military links. Such relationships are now likely to come

under intense scrutiny, especially where research is on dual-use technology — civilian technology that can be repurposed for military use. Under China's civil-military fusion policy, civilian advances bolster its military prowess.

Under the new Truss administration, more universities will have to re-evaluate such partnerships.

News Times investigation
British research 'could help China build super weapons'

The Times reported on Imperial's links on February 5

Chinese military, totalling 945 papers from 2015 to last year.

The two centres will close before the end of the year, after the government's export control joint unit, which operates out of the Department for International Trade, rejected applications to export sensitive research and technology. Although the trade department did not explain the refusals, it is

understood the applications failed to meet strategic export licensing criteria. This can include whether it is in the national interest to transfer equipment or capability to a rival.

Other universities are resisting the release of information about their links with China. The University of Lincoln has been blocking the release of information about funding it has received

from Chinese institutions since July last year and is one of the only institutions that refused a freedom of information request in full. It says disclosure could cause "unwarranted reputational damage" and it is discussing the request with the transparency watchdog.

The closures come as Liz Truss has signalled a shift to treating China as more of an adversary. Before her election, her campaign team indicated that she would reopen the government's integrated review, which set approaches on security, defence and foreign policy over the next decade.

China was deemed a "systemic competitor", with the review suggesting a cautious increase in trading. Truss's allies say China should be defined as an "acute threat", on a similar status to Russia.

The Times understands that the laboratories were closed as part of a consultation with government and the university's due diligence, which informed the decision not to renew the partnerships and to let them come to a natural conclusion.

Robert Clark, a director at the think tank Civitas, said the closures were welcome but added that the university should review other research groups. "Imperial still operates a jointly funded lab with Shougang Group, a Chinese state-owned steel conglomerate which has an active role in the ... military industry in China," he said.

A spokesman for the university said: "All partnerships and collaborations undergo thorough scrutiny and are regularly reviewed ... in line with our commitments to UK national security."

App for fans at World Cup who fall foul of Qatari law

Jonathan Ames Legal Editor

Football fans at the World Cup will have access to an app for legal advice if they fall foul of Qatar's strict laws.

The English and Welsh teams have qualified for the Cup, which kicks off on November 20 in Doha, and experts have predicted that British fans could be confused by laws on alcohol.

Detained in Dubai, a human rights group based in the UK, has produced the app which includes an emergency chat, travel warnings, urgent alerts and a podcast about justice systems.

Radha Stirling, the founder of the group, warned of "arbitrarily enforced laws that have seen thousands of visitors end up behind bars". She advised users to "share information or incidents" on the app.

Alcohol is banned during matches but will be served outside the stadium before and after. The authorities will have zero tolerance for drunkenness but the law is vague. Stirling said that Qatar did not specify a legal "blood alcohol level" and "anyone who drinks a single beer will be vulnerable".

"Most people think that if they follow the rules with regards to purchasing and consuming alcohol, they will be fine," said Stirling said. Instead, "the most dangerous aspect of the law has to do with intoxication".

Farmer did not realise he had run over his son, three

Will Humphries

Southwest Correspondent

A father is living a "waking nightmare" after running over and killing his three-year-old son as the child played on his bicycle on the family farm.

Guto Jenkins, 32, was driving out of the farm to make a delivery of topsoil when Ianto was struck on the head by a trailer attached to his father's pickup truck. The inquest heard that his head was severely injured and neck broken in the accident on the farm in Efailwen, Carmarthenshire, in August last year.

Jenkins said in a statement that he had been due to take Ianto with him but his son wanted to continue playing at the farm with his sister and cousin. Jenkins said he had checked the mirrors and over his shoulder before pulling away. "I did not see Ianto anywhere near ... I did not see, hear or feel anything unusual," he said.

Jenkins was still driving out of the farm when he received a phone call from his mother telling him that Ianto was dead. "It was the worst call of my life," he said in his statement. "It is a waking nightmare that I will live with for the rest of my life. The pain and guilt will not go away."

Andrew Bamber, a pathologist, said the injury showed the head had been hit by a "very heavy" object "consistent with a pick-up truck and trailer loaded with soil". The jury, at Llanelli Town Hall, returned a verdict of accidental death after being directed by Paul Bennett, acting senior coroner.

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Life for 'Terminator' who attacked stranger with machete on Tube

David Woode

A machete-wielding man who tried to kill a business consultant on the London Underground in scenes compared to those from *The Terminator* film has been jailed for life.

Ricky Morgan, 35, of no fixed address, launched an unprovoked attack on James Porritt, 41, slashing open his head and leaving his hand "in pieces" on July 9 last year.

Passengers were in fear of a terrorist

attack and tripped over each other as they fled the carriage during Morgan's rampage on a Jubilee line train between Green Park and Bond Street.

Morgan shouted at Porritt, whom he had never met: "I don't want anyone else, I just want him." Porritt told the Old Bailey in London that it was like a "horror movie" and the Arnold Schwarzenegger film *The Terminator*.

At his trial in May Morgan claimed that he was suffering from mental illness. But the jury convicted him of

attempted murder and possessing a bladed weapon.

During sentencing at the court yesterday, Porritt broke down as he explained how the "horrific and undeserved" attack had affected his life. He said: "It took less than 20 seconds for my entire world to be irrevocably and irreversibly damaged and altered."

He described the "pure terror" of being chased down the carriage, adding: "I genuinely thought he was going to kill me. He left me for dead."

Porritt begged Morgan to stop after he dropped to the floor but the "emotionless" attacker continued to "hack away" at him.

In his victim impact statement, Porritt said his injuries meant he could no longer sign his name or play his favourite sports. Addressing Morgan in the dock, Porritt described how the attack had affected his partner and family: "It breaks my heart we cannot hold hands like we used to."

Passing sentence, Judge John Hillen

told Morgan: "Having watched many times during the trial the ferocity of your attack captured by on-board CCTV images, James Porritt is very lucky to have survived. It was a wonder that no one else suffered injury."

Morgan's barrister, Warwick Aleeson, said in mitigation that the offences were likely to have been triggered by Morgan's "profound and serious undiagnosed schizophrenia".

Morgan was sentenced to life and must serve a minimum term of 16 years.

Little depth in retelling of Richard III's excavation

Cinema Kevin Maher

The Lost King
Toronto Film Festival
★★★★★



From the first few seconds of the opening title sequence — a showy remix of Hitchcock's *Psycho* — you can tell that something's not quite right here. The film is a folksy cousin of *Philomena* (from that movie's director, Stephen Frears, and co-writers, Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope), and yet the garish titles attempt to evoke the one element that will be sorely lacking from the subsequent 108 minutes: urgency.

The Lost King tells the story of Philippa Langley (Sally Hawkins), the amateur historian who in 2012 discovered the remains of Richard III beneath a car park in Leicester. More accurately, considering that the discovery is a foregone conclusion, Frears and his writers are trying to squeeze some dramatic conflict from Langley's alleged clashes with the pompous academics and patriarchal stooges who apparently conspired to deny her the appropriate credit. It's not an entirely edifying premise, and several of the academics complained last month of being maligned by the

movie, especially by clumsy lines (delivered by Langley, in a huff) such as: "They never miss a chance to put me in my place! It's exhausting!"

The film is structurally similar to the Ralph Fiennes archaeology drama *The Dig*. Whereas that movie used the excavation process to express huge ideas about mortality and history, *The Lost King* is oddly petty, with a cast of characters essentially shouting, like the seagulls in *Finding Nemo*: "Mine! Mine! Mine!"

The sense of tonal uncertainty touches every aspect of the tale. As Langley's quest begins, for instance, she is joined by an apparition of Richard III (Harry Lloyd), who barely speaks and adds little bar an increasingly wearisome number of visual gags (Look! It's Richard III on a park bench! On a train! In the kitchen!).

Elsewhere, Coogan appears in a bizarre non-role as Langley's



Sally Hawkins meets an apparition of the king, who adds little, and Steve Coogan, left, is no better as her ex-husband

ex-husband, John, and Mark Addy plays the Leicester archaeologist and credit-grabbing frenemy, Dr Richard Buckley.

Langley is a tricky protagonist. The decision to highlight her chronic fatigue syndrome makes thematic sense (she identifies with Richard III's

infirmity), but it flirts with victimhood. Hawkins is a sympathetic performer, but even she struggles to find variation in lines such as, "I suffer from chronic fatigue! It's a real illness," "I have a condition I manage, and it's called ME" and "I've got ME, and it's a real illness!" The film, in the

end, is blandly efficient. It plods along, entirely free from intrigue or tension, only steps away, at all times, from its own inertia.

In cinemas from October 7

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Met chief vows to restore trust in 'corrupted' police

Fiona Hamilton Crime Editor

The new Metropolitan Police commissioner has expressed disappointment in how officers engage with the public and has warned that the force has been "weak" in dealing with corruption, *The Times* has learnt.

Sir Mark Rowley told officers yesterday he was "disappointed" that, during weekend patrols, some officers' attention was not focused on their duties or the public.

In an internal video message on his first day at the Met, Rowley, 57, emphasised the importance of engaging with the public, making eye contact, helping people and watching out for "risk and threat".

He said politicians and leaders had let down the "heroic, dedicated majority" of officers.

Rowley, whose predecessor Dame Cressida Dick was forced out after a series of misconduct scandals, is determined to overhaul Britain's biggest police force and restore public trust.

He said he would enforce higher

standards and would be "ruthless" in removing corrupt and prejudiced officers. He said policing had been "weak" and that a minority of rogue officers had been allowed to "corrupt our integrity".

Rowley promised to build a strong community and to respond properly to crimes such as drug-dealing and anti-social behaviour. He also said he would ensure that an officer was sent to every burglary.

The new commissioner recognised that many officers and staff were disillusioned because of a "blurred mission, too much bureaucracy and inadequate systems", and added: "I promise I will do better." He also said he wanted "world-class" data analysis and better technology.

He said he would listen to officers and staff about their concerns, but also promised to listen to groups that had lost confidence, such as black, female, LGBTQ and disabled communities. He was "optimistic" that the force would succeed and emphasised that the vast majority of officers were hard-working

and dedicated. He added that the Met could succeed only if its 43,000 officers and staff stood "side by side".

Rowley said the reforms were "urgent". He cited a survey that showed only 41 per cent of Londoners thought the Met was doing a good job.

The *Times* revealed yesterday that Rowley would place Sir Robert Peel's principle of policing by consent at the heart of his plans. Peel, regarded as the father of modern policing, believed that its legitimacy came from having public support, trust and confidence rather than imposing order through force.

Trust in the Met has decreased after a string of scandals including the abduction, rape and murder of Sarah Everard by a serving officer and the sharing of racist, misogynistic and homophobic messages by officers at Charing Cross police station. Dick was ousted in February after Sadiq Khan, the mayor of London, lost confidence in her ability to repair the force. The Met has been placed in special measures in response to performance concerns, including a failure to record 69,000 crimes.

Officer who shot rapper is suspended from main duty

David Woode

An armed officer who fatally shot a rapper following a police chase in south London has been suspended from frontline duties — a week after the victim's family called for action to be taken.

Chris Kaba, 24, from Wembley, northwest London, was shot by a firearms officer after police made "tactical contact" with the car he was driving in Streatham Hill last week. Kaba died in hospital.

Police said that Kaba was stopped after the vehicle activated an automatic number plate recognition camera which indicated that it had been linked to a firearms offence in the previous days. The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) later confirmed that Kaba was unarmed and said that the Audi he was driving was not registered to him.

The police watchdog launched a homicide investigation on Friday after reviewing evidence of the shooting. The Met said that the unnamed officer's suspension "does not determine the outcome" of the IOPC's independent investigation.

Amanda Pearson, of the Met, said:

"This decision has been reached following careful consideration of a number of factors, including the significant impact on public confidence, and in light of the [IOPC] announcing a homicide investigation."

"Our thoughts and sympathies remain with Mr Kaba's family and friends. We understand how concerned communities are, particularly black communities, and thank those who are working closely with our local officers."

Sadiq Khan, the mayor of London, said: "I welcome this decision and am in regular contact with the IOPC and the new commissioner. My thoughts remain with Chris Kaba's loved ones at this intensely difficult time."

In the wake of the shooting, Kaba's family immediately demanded the suspension of all officers involved in the shooting. Amid a public outcry, the Met initially said that the armed officer was "not currently on operational duties".

The latest development came two days after Kaba's parents led a peaceful protest in central London. Hundreds of demonstrators brought roads in Westminster to a standstill as they marched from Parliament Square to Scotland Yard on Saturday.



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Everything is cancelled but there's always a wet walk

Giles Coren

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Comment

It was a privilege to watch the Queen at work

Seeing at first hand her dedication, humour and diplomatic skill was a lesson in how to care for a great institution

William Hague



It was the habit of the Queen, when hosting guests at Windsor, to take them after dinner to the magnificent library of the castle and show them something of relevance to them. On such an occasion, when I was leader of the opposition, she produced the letters exchanged between one of my cherished political ancestors, Disraeli, and her own great personal ancestor, Queen Victoria.

These letters are fascinating in themselves, particularly as Victoria admired Disraeli and loathed Gladstone, showing a strong preference for who her prime minister might be from which today's monarchy has wisely moved on. Yet the fact that I, as a young party leader, could sit with the Queen, poring over such letters, jointly deciphering the handwriting and reflecting on the changed nature of royal and political leadership is one tiny example of the astute work of an assiduous constitutional monarch.

Much has been made, rightly, in the past few days, of the importance of the weekly audience between prime ministers and their sovereign. But upholding the "constitutional principles" affirmed by King Charles III in his first address to the nation involves maintaining personal links with the loyal opposition, as his immediate meetings with political leaders demonstrated.

Serving eventually as her foreign secretary, I travelled with the Queen on state visits and experienced at first hand her humour, hard work and diplomatic prowess. Returning with

her and the Duke of Edinburgh from visits to the UAE and Oman, my wife Ffion and I were invited to have lunch with them — the first-class cabin of a British Airways plane having been converted to a dining room for the purpose. Thinking at first that it might all be very formal, I will never forget the Queen telling stories, being genuinely funny and self-deprecating, and exclaiming after endless witticisms from the duke: "Mr Hague, at this rate you will think we're just dotty old people."

No, Ma'am, I naturally hastened to say, I didn't think that at all. Far from it. They had just completed, at the ages of 84 and 89 respectively, a gruelling set of visits with long-haul flights, late-night banquets and several days packed with visits and ceremonies, without ever putting a foot wrong or making a misplaced remark. As a result of such professionalism and her longevity, such visits were prized among the

'Mr Hague, at this rate you will think we're just dotty old people'

host nations as the very pinnacle of global honour and recognition.

On another occasion, at Buckingham Palace, I was ushered in for an audience with Her Majesty to brief her on a security matter, to find she was looking out of the window at the last stragglers to leave that day's summer garden party. These late departers, no longer sure what to do with their cups or glasses, could be seen hiding them under a plant or in the bushes. They would have been horrified to know that their Queen and foreign secretary were watching them from behind a curtain and remarking on each ill-mannered act.

She sat down with a knowing smile, born of long acquaintance with her errant subjects.

The serious side of such meetings left no doubt that the Queen unfailingly read through her daily box of briefings. She was always familiar with the background to any major issue. Armed with recollections of discussing foreign affairs with Churchill and Eisenhower, virtually nothing could surprise her.

On her fifth state visit to France, in 2014 — from which I treasure the memory of the citizens of that deeply republican country shouting "Vive la Reine!" — she recalled the details of the previous visits, spread over six decades, while conducting the discussions in beautiful French. When President Hollande saw a copy of the speech she would give at his banquet, he told his staff to prepare a new one for him — he needed to raise his game.

I witnessed President Obama, a phenomenal speechmaker, visibly nervous at speaking in front of her. When President Trump came to Buckingham Palace, his family told me they had never seen him so concerned about doing and saying things correctly in his life. Yet the diplomatic achievements of the Queen went far beyond keeping such very powerful people on their toes. Her state visit to Ireland in 2011, as the first British monarch to set foot there since partition, set the seal on a quarter-century of governments' efforts to build a close bilateral relationship, and was a flawless display of personal charm and acute political sensitivity. After she arrived on the first day to a tense atmosphere, by the fourth and final day I could hardly believe my eyes as huge crowds in Cork waved Union flags and cheered the British Queen.

Such scenes are the answer to the



William Hague, then foreign secretary, leaving No 10 with the Queen in 2012

too big for themselves. Here, any political leader who attempts to remain in office despite losing an election will get short shrift.

Above all, we benefit from a sense of long-term stewardship, which is one of the most inspiring aspects of the long life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II. In a world where many people measure their success by instant results or statistical targets, her life reminds us that the careful

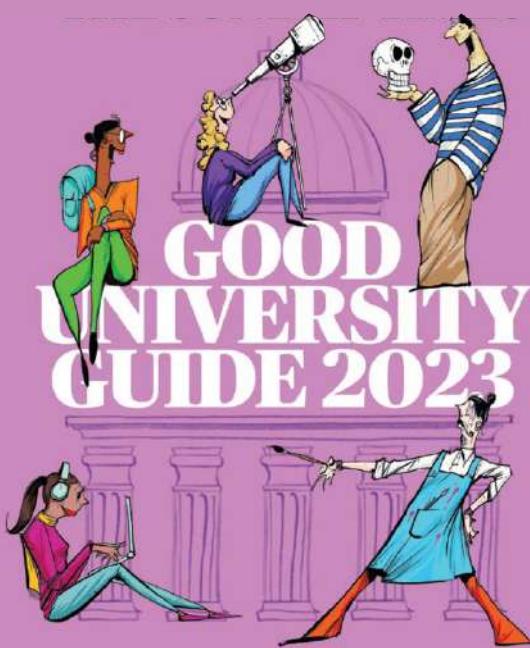
Above all, we benefit from a sense of long-term stewardship

stewardship of great institutions, even while they change, is of vast importance to human society, giving people a pride in their work or their country that goes beyond financial reward. The Queen who took the trouble to bring out Disraeli's letters and discuss their significance with me will be a towering inspiration for the rest of my life.

It is a lesson for many of our formerly great institutions. We can all think of parts of local government, or Whitehall, or even major companies or police forces, where the ability to combine stewardship with change, to move with the times while representing continuous excellence, seems to have been lost. This is a time to reflect on such lessons; to learn from the life, as well as mourn the passing, of a Queen we loved so much.

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Comment

Mourning lets a nation become a family again

The Queen's lying in state is a remarkable way for the public to come to terms with her death

Melanie Phillips



@MELANIELATEST

It's as if time has stopped. Other events, momentous in themselves — the war in Ukraine, the new Truss government, the fuel crisis — have been pushed to the back of public consciousness. The United Kingdom is experiencing a ten-day period of unprecedented emotional intensity.

When the body of the Queen begins five days of lying in state at Westminster Hall, the queues are expected to be five miles long. The public will be filing past the coffin around the clock.

In Scotland, tens of thousands came out to pay their respects along the coffin's six-hour route from Balmoral to Edinburgh. Along Edinburgh's Royal Mile, as the King and other family members walked behind the Queen's body on her journey from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to St Giles' Cathedral, the crowds who were crammed behind the barriers stood mostly in an affecting silence, with some bursts of applause.

For most of us, the funeral of a loved one is a very personal and private affair. Although a lying-in-state is at times afforded to great figures, the fact that the Queen's coffin will have been on public view for the best part of a week also lifts

this out of common experience.

With the exception of some people such as Catholics who may conduct a wake, mourners usually see the coffin only shortly before the funeral. Although procedural issues may delay a burial, ten days is a long time for a body to be on such frequent move from place to place — to be in front of us and yet not in the process of being interred. It's as if the Queen and all of us are in a state of suspended animation.

The idea of such a delay between death and burial is foreign to Muslims and Jews, who bury the deceased within hours. Some might find that speed unsettling. Having buried both my parents in accordance with Jewish ritual, I can only say that this brought tremendous relief.

Healing the grief of bereavement

There's a sense of the entire country taking part in her funeral

can only start when there is acceptance. Burial enables such a sense of closure. From that point, mourning becomes a part of healing. In Jewish tradition, the burial is followed by seven days of support by family and friends, who visit and look after the principal mourners at home.

Given this tradition, it's interesting that the court will observe a further seven days of mourning after the Queen's funeral. But the gap here

between death and interment is an acknowledgement of the fact that this isn't just a family bereavement. The whole country is in mourning.

Just as we all need fully to come to terms with the demise of our loved ones, so the entire country needs properly to internalise the fact that the Queen has gone. The sense of unreality over her passing has been deepened by the fact that we still don't know what caused her death. As several members of the public have testified, it's only when they actually saw the coffin pass that the Queen's death hit home.

There's a strong sense of the entire country participating in her funeral. More than the solemn pageantry that acts as a catharsis for emotion, it's the realisation that so many are joining together to express this that is so very moving.

Along one stretch of the route from Balmoral to Edinburgh, farmers lined up their tractors to face the road in an immensely touching guard of honour. Reflecting on the absence of people buying things from the tourist shops along the Royal Mile, a tartan seller observed that the moment felt "sacred".

People are turning out in such great numbers because they want to express their sense of personal loss and their deep respect for the Queen herself. She was devoted to them, and they are now performing an act of devotion to her.

At this moment of deep emotion, they also want to be together with others. In recent years, cultural divisions have created the sense that the country is fracturing. In this time of such widespread

sorrow, we learn that we are still a nation after all.

Since that awful moment last Thursday, when the BBC's Huw Edwards uttered the shattering words "She has left us", vast numbers of people have joined each other in the most primal and raw of emotions — the grief of those left bereft.

The extraordinary thing is that this is over someone whom we never knew in person and whom we never chose. Yet we regard those whom we do choose at elections with at best

Vast numbers have joined in the most raw and primal of emotions

indifference and at worst contempt.

We are also mourning the qualities that the Queen embodied and which we fear have all but disappeared in public life — not just public service and selflessness, but also the desire to unify and bring people together rather than tear down and divide.

In this extraordinary public outpouring of feeling, the people she sought to unify as a nation have indeed come together again as a nation. Political and ideological division, however temporarily, has been put aside for what is most important in life: love, loyalty, loss.

The Queen is being borne to her final resting place on the breath of millions. Britain is mourning the loss of its matriarch; and for the space of these most memorable days — a period out of time — it has become a family again.



PM was right to sack Tom Scholar from the Treasury
Theodore Agnew

While there has been an understandable outpouring of sadness at the death of Queen Elizabeth, the removal of Sir Tom Scholar as the lead permanent secretary at the Treasury should be a cause for celebration.

Having worked in his department for nearly two years I saw at first hand the malign influence of the Treasury orthodoxy at play. Whether it was foot-dragging and passive resistance to creating a Treasury office in the north (in Darlington), which he fiercely resisted, or the botched arrangements in the construction of the bounce back loans during the pandemic, all roads led back to him.

It is not surprising to hear cries of dismay at his dismissal from an echo chamber of former mandarins, because that is what they mostly are: a metropolitan elite with their own self-reinforcing prejudices.

I hope very much that our new prime minister will build on her excellent decision and remove responsibility from the Treasury for driving economic growth. It has no idea how to deliver this. The system obsesses about measuring inputs, counting out the money distributed to departments, but has little clue of how to measure outcomes.

Departments are infantilised in their management of money, with savings being automatically clawed back to the centre. This of course removes any incentive to think innovatively, creatively or cost-effectively.

Many would say that it is up to elected ministers to impose their will and that the upper echelons of the civil service are entirely neutral in their political views. This is nonsense. Mandarins have a very strong view of how the world should look and will use every lever available to ensure that their prejudices prevail.

A couple of vignettes. It took the Home Office three years to convince the Treasury that golden visas (to encourage inward investment) were being issued to bad actors or even possible criminals, and that the system needed to be redesigned or stopped. In another row, the Treasury refused to support the Department for Work and Pensions in properly resourcing it to claw back Covid-related Universal Credit fraud. This was even when confronted with the reality that, without extra resources, it would take seven years.

There are many excellent civil servants in Whitehall and I was privileged to work with dozens of them in the Department for Education, the Cabinet Office, HMRC and the Treasury. Tom Scholar was not one of them.

Lord Agnew of Oulton was a minister of state at the Cabinet Office and the Treasury 2020-22

Giles Coren Notebook

Everything is cancelled but there's always a wet walk

The multiple cancellation of fun things over the past few days has brought complex memories flooding back of the grand old days of lockdown. First, on Thursday evening, dinner at a friend's house was called off because, occupying a very different role from me in the news production cycle, she was hauled in for an all-nighter at work. I expressed disappointment, of course, but the cancellation of any social occasion has always been a relief to me. Especially when the alternative, as it was last Thursday and for most of 2020, is eating Deliveroo in front of bad news on the telly.

Then, on Friday, the cricket at the Oval was cancelled, which saved me two hours on the Northern Line and a ghastly hangover. And even when the FA, for somewhat unclear reasons, cancelled my son's Under-10 football in the park — the year-long cessation of which was a real blow

during the pandemic — I was able to take cheer from one last lie-in before his season starts. But then came the news that Queen's Park Rangers versus Huddersfield Town was also cancelled, and my weekend really began to fall apart. I mean, sure, cancel the Premier League — nobody wants that sort of vulgarity at a time of national mourning — but who cares about QPR?

And so, with everything off, there was literally nothing for the Corens to do but go for a walk. Pure lockdown. So we drove to Hatfield House to do our statutory exercise along the 5K woodland walk there. The place was deserted, and we felt, as one often did in lockdown, like the last people on Earth. After about 45 minutes, we came upon a young but unquestionably majestic oak tree.

"It's the Queen Elizabeth Oak!" said Sam, reading from a sign. "The one she was sitting under when they told her she was going to be Queen."

"No, she was in Africa," said Kitty.



"Different Elizabeth," said Sam. "This was the first one, in 1558. Except her tree fell down in the 1970s and this new one was planted in 1985. By our Queen Elizabeth!"

"Wow," said Kitty, stepping over the little fence to stroke its bark. "She planted this actual tree."

At that point, it started to rain. So we all climbed in and stood under its branches for shelter.

"I wonder where King Charles was when they told him he was King," said Sam.

"They didn't have to tell him," I said. "He was with the Queen when she died."

"Oh good," said Sam. "That's much better."

Fishy business

Many people were unimpressed by what they saw as commercial opportunism in some corporate expressions of grief last week. My favourite manifestation of this came in a tweeted response to a condolence message from Birds Eye, which made the very good point that, given

the Queen's life of service to the military, and her particular affinity for the navy, the message would have been better coming from Captain Birdseye himself.

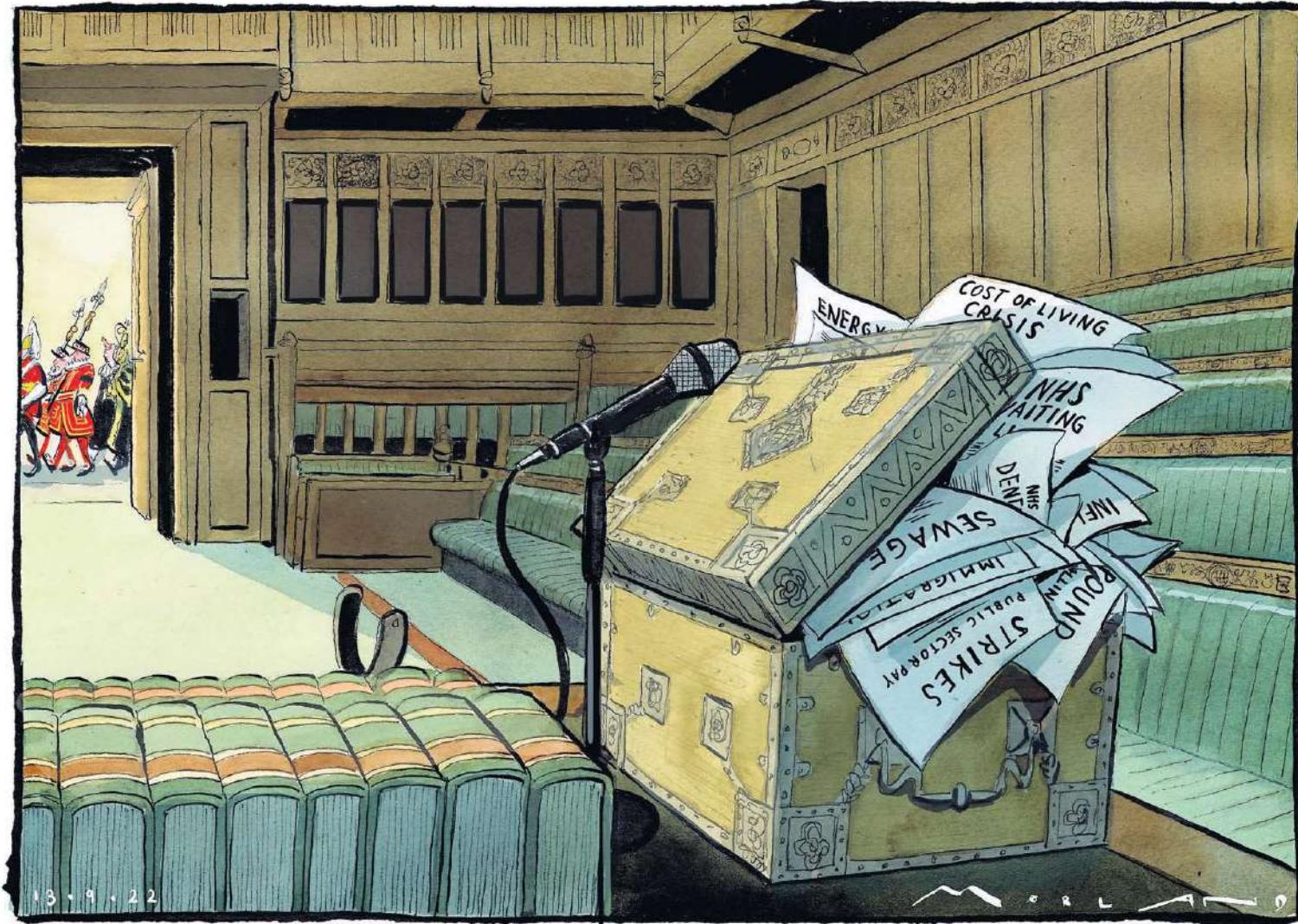
Tale of two Lizzes

For three days last week, between Liz Truss's election victory and the Queen's death, we had a prime minister and a monarch with the same Christian name for the first time in 185 years. Not since the premiership of William Lamb, in the last years of William IV, had such nomenclatural contiguity been achieved at the top of our political system. And he, too, as chance would have it, was in post for the death of the monarch who shared his name in 1837. (Before that there were a couple of Georges, in the reign of a couple of Georges, who, annoyingly, don't fit with the pattern at all.)

Greener energy

The soaring price of cucumbers that is due, we are told, to the energy crisis, has put me in mind of that boffin at the Academy of Lagado, in *Gulliver's Travels*, who had devoted his life to the extraction of sunbeams from them. Now, in these days of global warming (and fossil-hungry salad vegetables), wouldn't it be great if some scientist could find a way of putting the sunbeams back in?

Lord Agnew of Oulton was a minister of state at the Cabinet Office and the Treasury 2020-22



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Think of the monarch as civil servant in chief

The values of an impartial head of state are meant to filter through the system but seem lost on populist politicians

Hugo Rifkind



@HUGORIFKIND

Perhaps you've missed this — lucky you — but in American liberal circles this past week there has been a strong arc of commentary keen to paint our late Queen as a villain. Particularly, she is deemed culpable for the crimes of Empire.

Sometimes, this takes the form only of dim, viral tweets from people with a vague notion of Irish great-grandparents, but there was also an essay in this vein in *The New York Times* from the Harvard academic Maya Jasanoff. On MSNBC the anchor Ali Velshi, born in pre-independence Nairobi, had a vicious spat with the historian Andrew Roberts.

To mainstream British sentiments, this lies somewhere between upsetting and simply befuddling. When we think in these terms at all, which we tend not to, we see Elizabeth's reign as having been firmly on the right side of history. As in, forget just decolonising the discourse; the woman decolonised the actual colonies. More than that,

though, these American visions jar because they seem to attribute to the British monarch something that we all know, in our bones, no monarch has. Which is autonomy.

You can see why Americans struggle with this, and it's not just because their conception of the British monarchy ossified with George III. It's also because they have a president, and he — or she, not that they ever seem wild about that idea — actually does get to be in charge. They also appoint their own administrations, and not in name, but literally. This is why, years into his reign, hundreds of jobs in the Trump administration remained unfilled. It is also why Americans really do mean something, even if it is a mad something, when they complain about the "deep state". Because permanence, for them, is suspect.

It is impossible to overstate how thoroughly unlike this the United Kingdom is. Here, having a deep state is the whole idea. Our politicians come and go, but everything else is supposed to function as a lasting, apolitical machine, equally capable of working under not only Liz Truss or Sir Keir Starmer but also, at least theoretically, Jeremy Corbyn or Nigel Farage.

This is most obvious with the civil service — permanent secretaries; the clue is in the name — but the same expectations extend to judges, the

armed forces, the police and basically any agent of the British state. And, while other nations conceive of similar things in different ways, for us this all stems from the Crown. Hence there being one, for example, on your local postbox.

This is why, when monarchs express actual politics, it's a scandal. You'll have read about Margaret Thatcher calling Elizabeth "the kind of woman who could vote Social Democratic" or David Cameron saying she "purred" when Scotland rejected independence; tiny crumbs that tell us almost nothing. On the

Forget decolonising the discourse; the woman decolonised the colonies

latter, remember, the Queen actually just said that people should "think very carefully". Which is only political if you think they should not.

In his first speech as King, Charles put his own future neutrality front and centre, adding that it would fall to William, from now on, to "continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping to bring the marginal to the centre ground". This, it seemed to me, was a deliberate attempt to recast his own past political interventions as part of the established job description for an

heir to the throne, to which my response would be: "hmmm". More importantly, though, he was saying that his own politics are parked. He's a postbox now, or a flag. He's a role. If the neutral administrators of the British state form a pyramid, he sits on the pointy bit at the top, hopefully with a cushion.

There are those, of course, who just don't buy all this "neutral administrators" stuff. They think the establishment serves its own interests first, and sometimes they have a point. I'm all for the idea that people in all sorts of roles have biases they ought to examine. What I don't like is the vogueish and frankly pessimistic idea that nobody really means it, not even as an aspiration.

"I'd rather have more honest bias," said Liz Truss, shortly before becoming prime minister. She was talking about the BBC, but I'm not sure her views on the civil service are all that different.

This weekend, she was accused of an "ideological purge" of mandarins, after ditching the permanent secretary at the Treasury and a national security adviser. More sackings are expected. Lord Ricketts, the former head of the Foreign Office, called it "an American-style politicisation of top jobs".

Again, it is one thing to think that people who ought to be impartial are failing in this. It's another to deride

the concept of impartiality itself. You will remember the attack on Supreme Court judges, after they overruled Boris Johnson's prorogation of parliament. Most of it focused on their own political crumbs, as if it were inconceivable that they could have ignored those and based their judgment on law.

When Priti Patel's Rwanda policy failed, she too blamed "politically motivated" judges, this time in Strasbourg. On health, on education, on whether it was or wasn't OK to have a birthday party during lockdown, this government has a marked habit of finding bogeymen among apolitical functionaries whenever it can. Meanwhile, should his antique alarm clock fail to go off, I reckon there's a good chance Jacob Rees-Mogg would blame "unelected civil servants".

You may think the faceless pyramid of British officialdom is ripe for smashing, and to be honest, quite often I do too. You may also think we'd be better off with something closer to the American system, where almost everything is political, and there we part company. What you can't do, though, is traduce the very notion of impartial service and ridicule those who claim to believe in it, before turning around, setting your lip to tremble and calling yourself a constitutional monarchist. Because whatever you are, it's not that.

Letters to the Editor



Spectre of republic

Sir, Antigua and Barbuda's impending referendum on "ditching" the monarchy (news, Sep 12) will be the first substantial test of the reign of King Charles III. It is not inevitable that the Caribbean Commonwealth countries will turn republican: Barbados removed the Queen through a parliamentary rather than a public vote because the politicians did not trust the people to follow them. However, republicanism might creep in if we dismiss it as irrelevant and ignore the fact that it has a significant diplomatic effect on us: the rise of Caribbean republicanism is symptomatic of Chinese influence in the region. China's investments in Barbados exceed those of the UK's.

The vote is still some time away, so the King and his government have a window to show commitment to Antigua and Barbuda and the worth of the Commonwealth to its people. The opportunity must not be wasted.

Robert Frazer
Salford

Sir, The Commonwealth nations in the Caribbean should be wary of ditching the monarchy. They are at present stable parliamentary democracies with respected courts and civil services, military and police free from undue political interference. This is in marked contrast to most other countries in the region. The similarity of their governing institutions with Britain enables Caribbean nations to share many of the benefits of living here.

Rohan Fernando
Epsom, Surrey

Civil unrest

Sir, The sacking of Sir Tom Scholar, the permanent secretary at the Treasury ("Chancellor's error", letter, Sep 12, and "Truss decides against sacking Case", news, Sep 21), is not only a disgraceful way to treat a brilliant and dedicated public servant, it also shows abject intellectual cowardice. Good ministers need and want the best advice, not that which causes the least inconvenience.

Nicholas Holgate
Former civil servant, London W14

Letters to The Times must be exclusive and may be edited. Please include a full address and daytime telephone number.

Corrections and clarifications

• A photograph showed members of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, not the Royal Company of Archers as the caption wrongly said (news, Sep 12).

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Letters to the Editor should be sent to letters@thetimes.co.uk or by post to 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF

Monarchy's ability to bind a diverse nation

Sir, Further to your leading article "Crown and Convention" (Sep 10), those of us who endured the privations of the Second World War and the immediate postwar period did indeed hope for a new Elizabethan era after the accession of the Queen. You rightly point to the extraordinary changes in society, largely relating the influence of the Beveridge report and its implementation by the Attlee government and acceptance by subsequent ones. Our society became fairer, better educated, less deferential, much more diverse, and healthier and longer-lived. Science and the arts flourished, and Britain became a leading partner in Europe. This was indeed a new Elizabethan era.

Alas, since the 1990s a generation, including most of the new cabinet, has grown up that does not appreciate the change that occurred under the benign oversight and guidance of our late monarch. The emphasis on self rather than the selflessness that Queen Elizabeth exemplified has led to our present financial and, worse, climate problems. Now, as much as in 1952, we need the monarchal soft power to guide our embryonic government towards the fundamental problems confronting us.

Anthony Seaton, FMedSci
Emeritus professor, Aberdeen University; Edinburgh

Sir, The first Elizabethan era saw the launching of the British East India Company, which led to the spread of British rule and the growth of the British Empire across much of the globe. The second Elizabethan era began with the process of decolonisation, replacing the empire with the Commonwealth. However, what will be perhaps the greatest legacy of the second Elizabethan era will be the enormous progress made in science, leading eventually to the conquest of space. Human space travel, landings on the moon and planets, the operation of space telescopes that have the capacity to investigate the very beginnings of life in the cosmos — these will be the timeless achievements that will mark out the era that has just passed.

Professor Chandra Wickramasinghe
Buckingham Centre for Astrobiology

Sir, Your leading article refers to Walter Bagehot's distinction between the "efficient" and "ceremonial" tasks of the constitution. But Bagehot actually distinguished between the "efficient" and the "dignified" parts of the constitution. By "dignified" he

meant far more than just "ceremonial", as our dear departed Queen understood very well, since she was taught about the constitution from Bagehot's book on the subject, first published in 1867.

Trevor Hilder
Trowbridge, Wilts

Sir, Clare Foges ("Royalty without pomp isn't worth the name", Sep 12) is right: siren voices will tempt the new King, already disposed to "slimming down" the monarchy, and they must be resisted. What is needed is a clear understanding of the differences between profligacy, parsimony and sheer stinginess. The British Isles still have the remnants of a cultural heritage but much has been lost in the push for a homogeneous society and the recent acceptance of diversity. It is at times of great significance that the heritage and traditions of these isles can be universally celebrated, bringing different people together in the recognition that our history belongs to us, and we belong to it, and joining in an expression of love, loss, hope and goodwill. We need such reminders, and the monarchy offers the perfect vehicle to provide it in perpetuity.

Sierra Hutton-Wilson
Evercreech, Somerset

Sir, The siren voices to which Clare Foges refers, telling the King that "all this pageantry is not a good look for a modern monarch", come largely from younger generations. Those adults of my grandchildren's age are indifferent (and even at times hostile) to a hereditary monarchy, largely because of all the flummery associated with it. Unless King Charles addresses this, the monarchy is unlikely to survive.

John Grossman
Northwood, Middx

Sir, What a shame that the lying in state has again become Londoncentric: the chance to let the people of the north of England and the Midlands pay their respects to the Queen has been lost ("Five-mile queue for Queen", Sep 12). York would have been the ideal place for the coffin to spend 24 hours. Is four days really necessary in London?

Lynn Jones
Cardiff

Sir, It is understandable, given that the Queen died in Scotland, that there should be a period of one day when her coffin lies in rest in Edinburgh. Yet only four full days have been allocated for the lying in

state in London. Given the relative populations of the Edinburgh area and the southeast of England, there is insufficient time for people in the London area to pay their respects.

RA Connell
Guildford, Surrey

Sir, The arrangements for those wishing to pay their respects are unsatisfactory. Every major museum and art gallery in the world now has timed admission ticketing systems for exhibitions expected to attract a lot of people. Making people walk for miles and queue for 20 hours, possibly in the rain, is turning this occasion into an endurance marathon: it will be impossible for most of the Queen's longest-standing admirers. Even at this late stage a booth could be set up along the queue to hand out timed admission tickets rather than making people stand and wait.

Dr Richard Turner
Beverley, E Yorks

Sir, David Moore (letter, Sep 12) is right. The image of the Queen riding Burmese side-saddle would make for the perfect memorial to her lifetime of service. Suitably scaled up, it would balance the equestrian statue of George IV opposite the fourth plinth. It would return dignity to the architecture of Trafalgar Square, while meeting the desire of Britons to remember our late sovereign.

Elizabeth Manners
London SW8

Sir, It is suggested in your report ("Bank holiday threatens a fresh setback for economy", Sep 12) that the bank holiday next Monday will adversely impact the economy, and no doubt it will, regardless of what we call the day. However, I always think of bank holidays as times of pleasure and suggest it would be more appropriate to call it an official day of mourning, allowing as many as possible to reflect on the Queen's life and reign. Thereafter, how about a new bank holiday commemorating Elizabeth the Great? Perhaps it could be in October, as there are already so many in the spring.

Helena Fielder
Southsea, Hants

Sir, The Order of the British Empire is contentious and obsolete. It might be renamed the Elizabethan Order, in memory of the Queen's lifetime of service and of her great predecessor.

Richard Heller
London SE1

Crown of courtesy

Sir, When my late husband Ted Hughes, then poet laureate, was due to be invested with the insignia of the Order of Merit in October 1998, a prestigious honour in the personal gift of the sovereign, his final illness and its treatment had already seriously affected his physical health and somewhat reduced his mental acuity. Nevertheless, he was determined to keep this royal appointment and we arrived at Buckingham Palace as instructed. Her Majesty was fully aware of Ted's illness and graciously invited me to join him for the audience. The conversation that ensued seemed for the most part a strange monologue from Ted, allowing little space for the Queen to participate or respond, but she listened intently and courteously throughout. Her sensitivity to his situation was very apparent, and for that I will be forever grateful. Ted died 12 days later.

Carol Hughes
North Tawton, Devon

Royal waymakers

Sir, In the 1290s Edward I built 12 "Eleanor Crosses" to mark the resting places of the body of his beloved wife Eleanor of Castile from Lincoln, where she died, on the way to Westminster Abbey. These are still remembered 700 years later. This could inspire a fitting memorial to the Queen: a series of five crosses placed at the five resting places before her burial: Balmoral Castle, Palace of Holyroodhouse, St Giles' Cathedral, Buckingham Palace and Westminster Hall.

Professor Andrew Y Finlay
Baroness Finlay of Llandaff
Llandaff, Cardiff

Naked justice

Sir, I agree with His Honour David Ticehurst's reasons for keeping wigs, both for advocates and judges (letter, Sep 12). Once, when moving to another court centre, I left my wig behind. It was too late to drive the round trip of 80 miles to get it so I sat wigless for the day, as did the advocates in considerate support. All was well until I had to pass a sentence of ten years. At that point the proceedings lacked the formality and solemnity that they deserved: I felt distinctly underdressed and overexposed.

His Honour Simon Tonking
Paris

Mind your marble

Sir, I suspect Sathnam Sanghera's marble top (Notebook, Sep 12) had not been sealed with a "stone resin". I discovered this in my restaurant days when a splendid, custom-made and elaborately cut-out marble top soaked up spilt oil like a piece of blotting paper. The manufacturers conceded that they had forgotten to apply the varnish. Although this greatly helped to prevent future staining, there was nothing to be done about the first wave of stains.

Steve Chesterfield
West Bridgford, Notts

Sir, The outpouring of feelings at the death of the Queen has been moving, but if everyone who left flowers had instead made a charitable donation to a charity that the Queen supported, how much better a way that would have been to mark her death.

Tim Huntingford
Glasgow

BACK TO WORK FROM THE HOLIDAYS

FROM THE TIMES SEPTEMBER 13, 1922

At this season of the year numbers of men are enveloped in a mood which, on the analogy of the small boy's homesickness, may well be called holiday sickness. Holidays have recently ended for very many. Victims of inexorable circumstance, they have reluctantly turned their backs upon delightful weeks empty of all save voluntary effort, and have returned to the workaday life of stern compulsion to do or starve. Once more, feeling as small and piteous as Shakespeare's schoolboy, the City toiler finds himself, with dispatch-case and "shining morning

face creeping like snail unwillingly" to the office. The holiday has confirmed him in the belief, which afflicts most men at one time or another, that Nature intended him to adorn a life of leisure. Holiday memories lie thick upon his mind. What did it matter if skies were overcast? Storm or sunshine, those were all unclouded hours to the tired body and the exhausted brain. For a span the returned worker lives in the past, reminding himself daily of what he was doing a week ago, chewing the cud of reflection over a sun-steeped beach, a moorland drive, a tramp along cliff paths, or even of an afternoon "folding of the hands to sleep". Equally he sees the present and the immediate future through a fog of distaste. Early rising, crowded trains, stuffy offices, are again the order of the day. He more than suspects that the colleagues, more fortunate or more far-sighted, who have succeeded him on holiday have

thoughtfully left to him the solution of their most nauseating problems. He hates his work. Wise doctors tell us that this mood is the measure of the holiday's worth. The more complete the holiday's success, the more intense the first repugnance to ordinary life. But, happily for the worker and the world, the mood is fleeting. Mental pictures of the holiday, however vivid, come gradually to inspire anticipations for the future rather than regrets for the past. In a week he is looking forward instead of back. He begins to meditate on the distinction between rest and rust, between leisure and laziness. He realizes that, however accomplished he may have been in the art of idling, he must be no idler; that "horas non numero nisi serenas" is all very well for a sundial, but is no motto for a man.

THETIMES.CO.UK/ARCHIVE

Daily Universal Register

UK: Service at St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast in honour of Queen Elizabeth II, attended by the King and Queen Consort; the coffin is brought to Buckingham Palace.

Nature notes



Topping out at over a metre long and weighing upwards of 40lb, pike are extraordinary creatures. These long-lived predators

come armed with an array of backwards-pointing teeth: small but incredibly sharp in the upper jaw, and with a mixture of small and much larger ones in the undershot lower jaw, along with a rough tongue like a cat's to help turn their catch around so they can swallow it head first. With their forward-facing eyes, pike hunt by sight and can accelerate incredibly quickly, making them deadly ambush hunters of amphibians and waterfowl, as well as fellow fish.

MELISSA HARRISON

Birthdays today



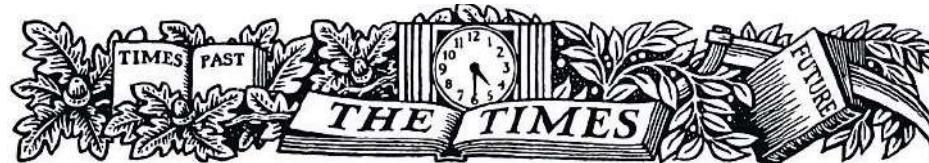
Stella McCartney, pictured, fashion designer, 51; **Oscar Arias Sánchez**, president, Costa Rica (1986-90, 2006-10), awarded the Nobel peace prize (1987), 82; **Amma Asante**, filmmaker, *Belle* (2013), and chancellor, Norwich University of the Arts, 53; **Jacqueline Bisset**, actress, *Bullitt* (1968), *Day for Night* (1973), 78; **Peter Cetera**, musician, Chicago, *If You Leave Me Now* (1976), 78; **David Clayton-Thomas**, musician, *Blood, Sweat & Tears*, *Spinning Wheel* (1969), 81; **Prof Linda Colley**, historian and author, *The Gun, the Ship, and the Pen* (2021), 73; **Lord (Neil) Davidson of Glen Clova KC**, advocate general for Scotland (2006-10), 72; **Bobby Davro**, impressionist, 64; **Anne Devlin**, playwright, *After Easter* (1994), 71; **Domenico Dolce**, fashion designer, Dolce & Gabbana, 64; **Alain Ducasse**, chef, Alain Ducasse at the Dorchester (three Michelin stars), 66; **Nicandro Durante**, chief executive-designate, Reckitt Benckiser, chief executive, British American Tobacco (2011-19), 66; **Niall FitzGerald KBE**, chairman, British Museum (2006-14), deputy chairman, Thomson Reuters (2008-2011), 77; **John W Henry**, businessman, principal owner of Liverpool FC, 73; **Arek Hersh**, Holocaust survivor, educator and writer, *A Detail of History* (1998), 94; **Niall Horan**, pop singer, One Direction, 28; **Goran Ivanisevic**, tennis player, Wimbledon champion (2001), 51; **Michael Johnson**, athlete, four-time Olympic track and field gold medallist (1992, 1996, 2000), 55; **Dame Eleanor King**, lady justice of appeal, chairwoman of the Judicial College, 65; **David Lelliott**, UK ambassador to El Salvador, 56; **Dame Carolyn McCall**, chief executive, ITV, easyJet (2010-17), 61; **Robin Smith**, cricketer, England (1988-96), 59; **Zak Starkey**, drummer, the Who, 57; **Richard Tice**, leader and chairman of Reform UK (formerly the Brexit Party), 58; **Christopher Woodward**, director, Garden Museum, London, 53.

On this day

In 1788 New York was declared the first federal capital of the US. The capital was moved to Philadelphia in 1790 and to Washington DC in 1800.

The last word

"I believe without any doubt at all that our greatest good fortune was that even in the most extreme difficulties we might lose our patience but never our sense of humour."
Gabriel García Márquez, Colombian writer, *Living to Tell the Tale* (2002)



Queen's Land

The dignified scenes of mourning for Elizabeth II throughout Scotland exemplify the common identity of the constituent nations of the United Kingdom

On first visiting Scotland aged 23, Queen Victoria was so smitten that she commissioned the construction of Balmoral Castle in Aberdeenshire, in the Scottish Baronial style. It was fitting that her descendant Elizabeth II spent the last days of her own long reign at Balmoral, in surroundings, and in a constituent nation of her realm, that she loved. And in turn, the people of Scotland loved her.

Thousands paid their respects to the late Queen as her coffin journeyed on Sunday from the Balmoral estate to Edinburgh, and again yesterday as the hearse travelled from Holyroodhouse along the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral, to lie in state. In death as in life, she binds together the peoples of the United Kingdom. These wellsprings of affection and admiration underline the value of the union. Should it ever unravel, and Scotland opt for independence, much would be lost.

While scrupulous in avoiding any hint of political partisanship, Elizabeth left little doubt of her feelings for the Union. Shortly before the referendum on Scottish independence in 2014, she told a well-wisher outside church near Balmoral: "Well, I hope people will think very carefully about the future." So they did.

Alex Salmond, first minister at the time, sought to reassure voters that an independent Scotland

would keep the pound and the monarchy, but was vague on details. Independence campaigners had no answer to the charge that, without the Bank of England to stabilise its share of public debt, an independent Scotland would face years of austerity. And the identification of Scotland's people with the monarchy is also likely to continue as a potent impediment to the appeal of separatism.

In a democracy, and if the issue is put to another referendum, the people of Scotland will have the sovereign right to leave the union if they choose. No one disputes this. But it is vital that the debate include a fair representation of the costs and uncertainties of such a course. The notion that Scotland's relation to the crown would be unaffected by independence does not bear scrutiny. The history of these islands is testament to the divisions that the institution of monarchy helps sublimate.

The Union dates from 1603, when a Scottish monarch ascended the English throne, and it was formalised further by the 1707 Treaty of Union. The outcome was a union not only of language and culture but of government. The crown was not an incidental part of this arrangement: the treaty guaranteed the Hanoverian succession to the childless Queen Anne. The monarchy as it has evolved has many idiosyncrasies but it is adept at

adapting to modern mores. It is, for example, obviously anachronistic that the Act of Settlement of 1701 bars not only Catholics, but those who marry Catholics, from the throne. Yet the Accession Declaration Act, passed in time for George V's accession in 1910, removed wording from his oaths that was especially offensive to Catholics.

The crown retains its hold on the nations of the United Kingdom not by coercion but by transcending politics and communal attachments. Robert Burns's line that the Scottish political elite that negotiated the union were "bought and sold for English gold" is a myth. There is ample Scottish self-interest in remaining part of the United Kingdom, and especially of being part of its currency union, but the main attachment has nothing to do with economics. It is that the union is stronger than its separate parts, and a constitutional monarchy is its visible symbol.

Eloquent advocates of Scottish independence such as the author Tom Nairn, in his book *The Enchanted Glass*, have logically linked their cause with that of republicanism. They are astute to note that independence is bound to unpick that constitutional bond. The dignified scenes of mourning and commemoration for Elizabeth demonstrate the absence of any popular appetite for doing so.

Putin's Folly

Russians are becoming more critical of the mismanaged war in Ukraine

The Ukraine war is coming home to the Russian heartland. An astonishing Ukrainian counter-offensive in the Donetsk region has sent Russian soldiers fleeing and for the first time commentators in Moscow have had to accept that the flow of battle is going against the Kremlin. Analysts on state television question the conduct of the 200-day invasion, hardliners are calling for tougher action from those around Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, while support for an anti-war movement is growing especially among the urban youth. Deputies from 18 districts of Moscow and St Petersburg have signed an open statement demanding that Mr Putin resign.

Moshe Dayan, the Israeli general, once pronounced that every soldier fleeing the battlefield carries with him a deadly germ of infectious panic. Something of the sort is now making itself apparent. The two Ukrainian attacks in Donetsk and a more laboured one around Kherson in the south may not yet be decisive but they have starkly demonstrated to the still-comfortable Russian middle class that Mr Putin has taken on more than he can chew. It was supposed to be a walkover but the

Ukrainian forces, despite taking losses, now number close to 700,000, are highly motivated and have been trained and armed by Nato states.

To be repelled would represent a humiliating setback for the Kremlin and is deemed unthinkable. Until now, all doubt was officially banished from public discourse. Now Mr Putin has two escalatory options, short of general conscription. The first is that he abandons the pretence of a "special military operation" to weaken a western-facing government in Kyiv and replaces it with a supposed counterterrorism campaign. It would be modelled on Russia's bombardment of Syria, still regarded by Moscow's military commanders as a success. The bloody siege of Mariupol showed what can be done by a ruthless army. Ramzan Kadyrov, the Chechen leader and Putin loyalist, seems to favour this course of creating half a dozen Aleppos across southern and eastern Ukraine.

The second option is to move a rung higher on the escalation ladder and deploy (or at least credibly threaten the use of) tactical nuclear weapons. The gamble: rather than risk a slide into a nuclear exchange, Western powers would persuade the

Ukrainian government to seek even a disadvantageous diplomatic settlement with Moscow. This would, however, compound the humiliation of Mr Putin's top brass and highlight the ineffectiveness of Russia's conventional forces.

All the signs, so far, are that Mr Putin will launch a purge of his generals, promote Syria veterans to high command and embark on a bombing campaign. If coupled with a cut-off of winter gas supplies to Europe and the accelerated exodus of perhaps ten million more refugees into the European Union, Mr Putin would count on a readiness to cut a diplomatic deal.

The Russian leader is running out of time for a victory through bombardment. About 75 per cent still endorse the war (down from 81 per cent in March) but the number of opponents is rising (20 per cent, up from 14 per cent). The real danger though comes from the swelling number of Russians who currently declare themselves indifferent to the war: if they come to realise that it is unwinable, expensive in lives and business lost, Mr Putin will seem very vulnerable, an autocrat dangerously out of step with his people.

Open Sesame

Big Tech may finally have solved the curse of the password

Technological innovation has brought countless joys but also new frustrations, few greater than the accumulation of passwords. The invention of the smartphone, the tablet, the app and streaming has opened up a world of previously unimaginable information and entertainment, unlocking access to goods and services that we may never have known we needed, allowing us to nurture old relationships while embarking on new ones. If only one could remember what unique combination of letters and numbers and at least one special character is needed to unlock them.

Yet deliverance from this curse of modern life is

at hand. Usually when members of the same trade get together, as Adam Smith noted, "the conversation ends in a conspiracy against the public or in some contrivance to raise prices". But on this occasion, teams from Apple, Google, Microsoft, Amazon, Meta (the owner of Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms) and other leading technology groups have worked together to develop a passkey, unique to each user, that can unlock apps and provide access to websites, eventually across all platforms. Passkeys were launched by Apple yesterday in the latest version of its operating system, iOS16.

The benefits, which will be rolled out across other systems, are obvious. No longer will one need to remember which combination of nicknames, street names, partner's names and birth dates one used for each service every time one logs on. No longer will one have to contend with two-step verification or clicking on every photo of a bus. Instead, a single piece of biometric data, a fingerprint or your face, will verify it is you. Better still, passkeys are virtually unhackable, since unlike passwords, they are not stored on a central database. Big Tech, often blamed as the source of modern problems, may finally have solved one.

World

Threatened at gunpoint for sugar:

In Ukraine's Kharkiv region six months of terror is over at last, writes **Richard Spencer**



Valentyn Medvedev often asked the Russians what they were doing in Ukraine, and in his house.

"We are here to fight the nationalists and fascists," they told him.

You have come in the wrong era, he would reply. He had been a Soviet citizen for most of his life and had grown up with its ideology, after all.

"The Germans, now they were fascists, right? And they were occupiers," he would go on. "Now you are the occupiers. What does that make you?"

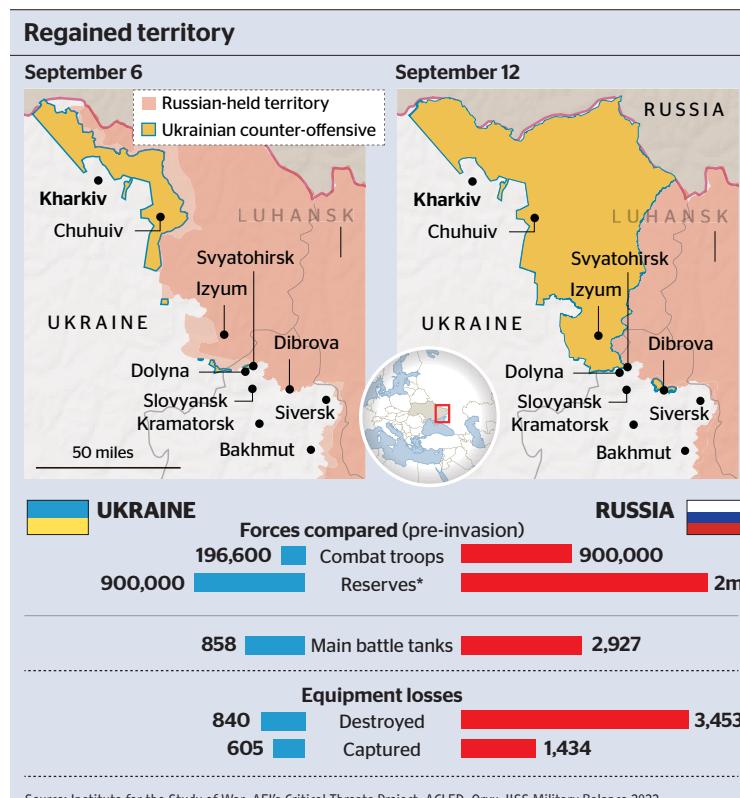
The Russian soldiers tried to be polite, until his questioning got on their nerves. "Who sent you here? Do you really want to be here?" he would press on, until they started ignoring him.

The recruits from the Luhansk People's Republic, as the breakaway province in Russian hands to the southeast is formally known, were more brutal. They would threaten him and trash his house.

One day they came to find his sugar, which they needed for the alcohol they were brewing in their billet. They had already drunk all his. They held a pistol to his head, until he told them where he kept it. But then they spotted some salt, too. "You bastard. You've been hiding salt from us all this time," the man with the gun shouted, and fired it into the ceiling.

The bullet hole is still there and Medvedev, 71, is left reflecting on the six months he spent with Russian soldiers for guests. "I didn't think the Russians were too bad before," he said. "Now I know." It was a shock for a man who, like many industrial workers in east Ukraine, had lived alongside Russians for most of his life. Before he moved here, he had been an engineer in a factory in the city of Dnipro to the south.

The Russian troops spent the best part of six months living on Medvedev's remote hilltop overlooking the town of



Balakliya, a key junction on the roads connecting the Donbas in eastern Ukraine with its second city, Kharkiv.

Gradually his neighbours fled, until only he was left, fielding his unwanted guests on his own. "That was the hardest time, when I was on my own," he said, though as a single man all his life he was used to a degree of solitude. From July until the moment the Russians ran away last week, he saw no one but soldiers.

As he speaks, he picks at jam in a bowl on a table laden with bread, honey and tomatoes. The Ukrainians arrived on Thursday as they laid siege to Balakliya and at the weekend soldiers dropped in food "more than I received during my whole six months with the Russians. They stole every pickle in the village."

Medvedev's hill, a long hike up from the riverbank below, was captured by

the Ukrainians as a precursor to the assault on Balakliya, itself a preliminary target on what has since become a rout of Russian forces in the east and northeast of the country.

By last night Ukrainian authorities said the Russians had withdrawn from all of Kharkiv province, clearing the city itself from the danger of short-range artillery. In his daily address yesterday, President Zelensky said Ukrainian forces had recaptured about 2,320 square miles of territory from Russia in a counter-offensive this month.

The border is 20 miles away, though, should the Russians still want to retaliate. On Sunday night, as if to make a point, a Russian cruise missile struck Kharkiv's main power plant. With the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant to the south also out of action, much of northeastern Ukraine lost electricity



for more than eight hours. Water pumping stations also were affected.

"Do you still think you can intimidate, break us, force us to make concessions?" Zelensky said in a post on social media. "Read my lips: No gas or no you? No you. No lights or no you? No you. Cold, hunger, darkness, and thirst—for us these are less frightening

and less deadly than your friendship and brotherhood."

The Ukrainians first arrived on a scouting mission at Medvedev's cottage early last month, coming when the Russians were elsewhere. Medvedev told them he was pleased to see them but they should get out. They were armed with AK-47s, while the Russians

Party with neo-Nazi roots set to enter Swedish government

Sweden

David Crossland Berlin

Sweden's right-wing bloc looked likely to take power after Sunday's election amid a surge in support for a party with neo-Nazi roots that is likely to demand a strong say in the new government.

After 94 per cent of electoral districts had been counted, it was thought to have won 176 of 349 seats in parliament, beating the left-wing bloc of Magdalena Andersson, the Social Democrat prime minister, with 173 seats.

The preliminary official result is not expected until tomorrow because overseas postal ballots are still being counted. Earlier results had suggested that Andersson would be able to cling on.

The election has vaulted Jimmie Åkesson, leader of the far-right Sweden Democrats who has described Muslim immigration as "our biggest foreign

threat since the Second World War", into the role of kingmaker in a country known for its tolerance and liberal traditions.

Analysts said Sweden was destined to become less open to immigration, would impose tougher rules on minorities and would embrace nuclear power.

The Sweden Democrats, with 207 per cent of the vote, according to the latest count, will be the second biggest party in parliament, behind Andersson's Social Democrats with 30.5 per cent, making it the largest party in the right-wing bloc.

Analysts said Ulf Kristersson, leader of the Moderates, the second biggest conservative party, was likely to become prime minister in a minority government supported by the Sweden Democrats.

Åkesson, who has transformed his party from a gang of neo-Nazis and white supremacists into a slick vote-

winning machine, tweeted that the party had had a "fantastic election".

He added: "[We] hope the gap between the blocs remains through the Wednesday count. If so, we are ready to constructively participate in a change of power and a new start for Sweden."

One thing unlikely to change is Sweden's path towards Nato membership, which has attracted broad support since Russia invaded Ukraine. So, too, the country's plans to boost defence spending.

Josefina Erikson, a political scientist and professor at the

Jimmie Åkesson, leader of the far-right Sweden Democrats, is now kingmaker

University of Uppsala, said Sweden was likely to face months of horse-trading before a government was formed that inevitably would bear the stamp of the Sweden Democrats, even if they were not formally part of the administration.

She added it was even possible that Åkesson could demand cabinet posts, which would be a test of credibility for parties such as the Liberals, who have ruled out sharing power in a government with the Sweden Democrats.

"The situation is much trickier than if the Moderate Party had been the largest party in the right-wing bloc," Erikson told *The Times*.

"The question is will the Sweden Democrats accept being left out of the government when they are the largest

party in that bloc? It remains to be seen how they will negotiate that, but if they accept staying out of government I would expect them to demand a lot in terms of policy: much stricter on immigration, less humanity, less generosity."

The Sweden Democrats rode public concern over a rise in fatal shootings and gang violence in which bystanders have been caught in the crossfire. Last month a young mother and her five-year-old son were injured by stray bullets during a shooting in the central city of Eskilstuna.

Crime and immigration overrode energy and the economy as important factors in the election, despite rising inflation, eclipsing Andersson's credentials as a crisis manager, analysts said.

"This says a lot about society," Erikson said. "This is a huge shift in Swedish politics and we're going to have to analyse this thoroughly before we understand how it happened."



Bannon hails 'Thatcher'
of the Italian right
Page 35



Bezos rocket explodes
shortly after lift-off
Page 36



life with Russian troops next door



GLEB GARANICH/REUTERS
Even a dog was pleased to see Ukrainians retake Zolochiv. Left: jubilant soldiers burn a Russian flag and pose in Vasylenkove

had a tank in a neighbour's garden, among other military hardware.

They withdrew and the battle resumed last Wednesday. The results are clear for all to see: craters on the hillside, pieces of mortar, the discarded tube of a Russian anti-tank weapon.

Then a direct hit from the Ukrainians took out his neighbour's house, where

six Russians had been billeted, and the rest fled down the hill and away.

Shortly afterwards Medvedev saw five soldiers climb the hill and cross the field in front of his house, wearing the blue marker tape of the Ukrainian army on the upper arms of their uniforms.

When the first troop of Ukrainians had left a month before, they had

smiled at him and said: "We'll be back," Medvedev said. And now they were.

"When I was younger, I always wondered why the Czechs and the Poles disliked the Russians so much," he said. "It wasn't like that for us. But it is now."

Russians are becoming more critical, leading article, page 31

Puccini's passionate love affairs laid bare

Italy

Tom Kington Rome

The passions and jealousies in operas such as *La bohème* and *Madama Butterfly* were no match for the dramatic real-life love affairs of Giacomo Puccini, newly discovered letters have revealed.

Researchers poring through more than 10,000 letters found in the Italian composer's archives have unearthed new details about Puccini's string of mistresses and his suspicious wife.

"We knew he had a crisis with his wife Elvira and that he had lots of female confidantes, friends and lovers, but there is lots more to discover and it will now all come out," Claudio Toscani, who is leading the research, said.

Born in 1858, Puccini composed some of the world's best-known operas, including *Tosca* and *Turandot*. He built a lakeside villa in Tuscany, where he was buried after his death in 1924 and

where his granddaughter Simonetta Puccini lived until her death in 2017.

Letters from the composer have been released over the years, but a vast collection, containing letters written to him as well as by him, were kept under lock and key by his granddaughter.

Since her death a foundation set up in her name has started to sift through the 10,500 letters and 1,500 musical documents tucked away in the house, with a first batch to be published this year.

"I would give all my blood to give you many kisses on your beautiful mouth," Puccini wrote to Elvira in 1885 while they were apart, to which she responded: "My angel, I wander the house, calling out to you, kissing your portrait and tears come to my eyes."

As his career blossomed, Puccini began a string of affairs with leading opera singers and a letter from Elvira a few years later took a different tone.

"I would never have expected to be

treated the way you have treated me," she wrote, adding: "You don't love me any more and I bore you with my complaints." She also wrote: "I have an idea you have been betraying me. You were so passionate a few days ago, and now you are too calm."

From 1911, Puccini had a long affair with Baroness Josephine von Stängel and would organise clandestine outdoor encounters with her while pheasant shooting, only to be confronted by Elvira on one occasion after she followed her husband.

In one letter, the German aristocrat writes to Puccini: "I am thinking of you with extreme desire, about your sweet love, your eyes and your dear lips."

Toscani, head of the scientific committee at the Simonetta Puccini Foundation, said that apart from the love letters, the musical documents would give new details about how Puccini composed.

How Kyiv gained the edge through deception

Analysis

Ukraine's success in the northeast of the country is a result of the military drawing on its reserves, the motivation of its troops and a third key element — deception — according to a Ukrainian military source (Larisa Brown and Michael Evans write).

Its armed forces used clever tactics to trick the Russians into believing the main counterattacks would be on the southern front around the port city of Kherson. The result was to draw troops away from the Kharkiv region, where Ukrainian forces have conducted decisive attacks in the past few days, according to analysts at the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington-based think tank.

A Russian-installed official in the region said Ukrainian forces had outnumbered Russian and pro-Russian forces by eight times during the attacks last week. It is understood there were other methods of deception, too, although they are deemed too sensitive to be made public.

The use of western weapons systems such as the American high mobility artillery rocket systems (Himars) and long-range munitions provided by Germany and other Nato nations was also key to the battlefield advances.

As the Ministry of Defence in London pointed out, an improvised floating bridge that Russia started building more than two weeks ago remains incomplete and Ukrainian long-range artillery is probably hitting river crossings over the Dnipro so frequently that Russia cannot repair damaged road

bridges. This will have affected Russian supply lines and the ability to move troops and equipment.

The Institute for the Study of War said: "The Ukrainian success resulted from skilful campaign design and execution that included efforts to maximise the impact of western weapons systems, such as Himars. Kyiv's long discussion and then an announcement of a counteroffensive operation aimed at Kherson [region] drew substantial Russian troops away from the sectors on which Ukrainian forces have conducted decisive attacks."

In the face of the blitz, Russian troops have three options: fight, flee or surrender. The majority have taken the middle option, leaving stockpiles of ammunition, weapons and armoured vehicles.

The only military option left is to maintain artillery strikes against advancing Ukrainian troops and to continue to target civilians with long-range attacks.

Ukraine's counteroffensive around Kherson is having the same impact on Russian troops. Many are dropping their weapons and retreating.

Speaking in Washington, William Burns, the CIA director, said President Putin had underestimated Ukraine's courage and capacity for combat. It was "hard to see Putin's record in the war as anything but a failure". Putin, he added, was surrounded by advisers too afraid to challenge him. The Russian leader had been wrong to believe that the West would lose its resolve to back Ukraine the longer the war continued.

Nut picker's balloon takes him on terrifying journey

China

James Callery

A Chinese nut picker who lost control of his hydrogen balloon was swept away, he said, "like a plastic bag" and carried almost 200 miles on the wind.

Hu Yongxu and another man were using the balloon to gather pine nuts from the tops of trees in the northern province of Heilongjiang.

His friend grabbed a branch and jumped to the ground as the balloon started to drift, but Hu was stuck in the basket. After eight hours he came down in a remote forest near the Russian border and lay injured for 40 hours until help arrived.

Shortly after losing control, he called his brother-in-law and said he was afraid and that "everything he saw

looked like ants", according to an interview with *Zhejiang Daily*. The state broadcaster CCTV said Hu had been contacted by the police who had told him to deflate the balloon but he then lost his mobile phone signal.

Hu spent two nights and a day with only a small amount of food and water. Rescuers found him after he crawled to a location where he was able to get a phone signal.

Hydrogen balloons are banned in China for pine nut harvesting because of the risk of accidents and fire, but many nut pickers use them rather than climbing trees that can be up to 30m tall.

In 2017 Bi Kesheng, from Jilin province, in the northeast, disappeared when his balloon rose unexpectedly into the sky and vanished in the fog.

World

Mystery of the new woman at Kim's side

North Korea

Richard Lloyd Parry Asia Editor

Kim Jong-un has a mysterious new female aide, the latest woman to be appointed to a senior position in the North Korean leader's inner circle.

The smartly dressed woman wearing glasses was at Kim's side last week during a sitting of the Supreme People's Assembly, the country's parliament. She has not been identified, but there is speculation that she may be one of Kim's two half-sisters, about whom little is known.

The woman, who in photographs appears to be in her thirties, seemed to be carrying the speech that Kim delivered to the assembly last Thursday, in which he vowed that the country would never give up its nuclear weapons.

She was seen in June at an outdoor concert, taking bouquets of flowers after they had been presented by well-wishers to the "Dear General".

Kim has promoted a surprising number of relatively young women for the leader of a strongly patriarchal society, in which elderly men used to dominate the senior positions. This year, he appointed his country's first female foreign minister, Choe Son-hui,



State media has pictured the aide with Kim Jong-un but has not named her

Tourists return to ancient site after Isis left its mark

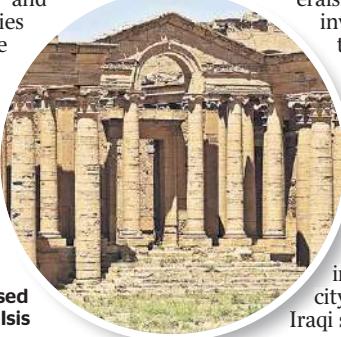
Iraq

Melanie Swan

The ancient city of Hatra in northern Iraq has welcomed back tourists five years after the defeat of Islamic State, which used it as a training base for two years and left it seriously damaged.

With remains dating back to the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC, Hatra has undergone a revival since being added to Unesco's world heritage in danger list. Edifices and depictions of deities such as Shamash, the sun god, and Allat, the goddess, were used by Isis fighters for target practice during their occupation from 2015.

Recaptured in 2017 by Iraqi forces and the United States-



Parts of Hatra were used for target practice by Isis

58, a determined negotiator with long experience in relations with the United States. He is frequently accompanied by Hyon Song-wol, 45, a pop star and former girlfriend, who makes practical arrangements for his trips around the country. She was founding leader of the Moranbong Band, a girl group formed in 2012 at his instigation.

In 2013, a South Korean newspaper claimed she had been shot dead by a firing squad for selling pornographic tapes featuring her and fellow performers. She reappeared soon after, however, and rose steadily within Kim's inner circle.

His glamorous wife, Ri Sol-ju, who is in her thirties, is often seen at his side. In 2018, she became the first consort to the Kim dynasty to be named first lady.

Most powerful of all, however, is Kim Yo-jong, 34, the youngest child of his father, the late Kim Jong-il, the country's second supreme leader. She has often appeared alongside her brother during his trips around the country providing "on-the-spot guidance". She serves in the propaganda and agitation department and on the State Affairs Commission.

State media have not identified the latest aide, despite publishing photographs in which she appears. The NK News website, which first noticed her repeated appearances, said she "may be a relative of Kim given their close resemblance but her identity remains unknown".

Kim is believed to have two half-sisters, Sol-song and Chun-song, who were born to an earlier wife of his father in 1974 and 1977, respectively. Sol-song is said to have worked behind the scenes as a close aide to her younger half-brother, but little is known about Chun-song. The new assistant appears to be too young to be either of them.



The long legs of the law Emma Corrin – Diana, Princess of Wales, in *The Crown* – attends the premiere of *My Policeman* at the Toronto International Film Festival

Iran says long-range 'suicide drone' can strike Israeli cities

Iran

Melanie Swan

The director of the Mossad has warned Tehran to expect a "painful response" for any strikes on Israel, as Iran unveiled a new long-range suicide drone designed to strike the cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa.

David Barnea, the new head of the Israeli intelligence service, told Iran that it should not "resort to force against Israel or Israelis".

"If Iranian proxies come after us, we will hit Iran directly," he said. "We will convince the leader [Ayatollah Khamenei, the supreme leader of Iran] that terror is not worth it and too costly."

"This will happen in Tehran, in Kermanshah, in Isfahan," Barnea added, referring to areas of Iran where authorities have reported sabotage operations against facilities or personnel linked to the country's military or nuclear programmes.

Brigadier General Kiomars Heidari, head of the Iranian armed forces,

praised the Arash-2's ability to strike Israel, according to the semi-official Mehr news agency, claiming it was "designed to hit Israel's Tel Aviv, Haifa".

News of the drone, a newer version of Arash-1, comes months after a similar threat to Tel Aviv. In April, President Raisi warned of an attack on Tel Aviv if Israel made even "the slightest action" against Tehran.

However, one Israeli security expert said that "the Arash-2 is limited in its capabilities to carry significant ordnance for a long distance" and it was not seen as a major threat. He added: "The Iranians have realised they are not able to confront the massive Israeli air defence system."

Tensions between the countries increased in 2020 when Iran's leaders blamed Israel for the killing of Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, its top nuclear scientist. He was shot, allegedly with a remote-controlled machinegun, while driving outside Tehran. At least two of Iran's leading scientists are alleged to have been targets of Mossad this year.

Number in slavery is rising, UN report says

Switzerland Fifty million people around the world are trapped in forced labour or an unwanted marriage, the United Nations has said. The UN had aimed to eradicate all forms of modern slavery by 2030 but the number of entrapped people rose by 10 million between 2016 and last year, a report suggests. The study by UN agencies and the Walk Free foundation, an Australian human rights group, found that 28 million people were in forced labour and 22 million were trapped in marriages. The report said almost one person in every 150 was in a modern form of slavery and that the pandemic worsened situations. (AFP)

Sichuan earthquake death toll rises to 93

China The death toll from an earthquake in the Sichuan province rose to 93, with 25 people missing, as a search continued hampered by rain and the risk of landslides. The earthquake, of 6.8 magnitude, also affected the city of Chengdu, where residents were under strict Covid lockdowns. Footage showed them banging on locked exits, trying to flee the quake. (AP)

Taxes are key to social justice, Pope says

Vatican City Speaking to business leaders, the Pope said tax was a form of social justice. He described it as "misunderstood" and said it "should not be considered as usurpation". He told the leaders to share their wealth through charity, fair wages and creating jobs. A right-wing coalition promising tax cuts is set to win the Italian general election this month. (Reuters)

Jihadist refuses to take stand for terrorism trial

Belgium Salah Abdeslam, a French jihadist already jailed for his part in terrorist attacks in Paris in 2015, refused to appear in court on the first day of a trial focused on three suicide bombings in Brussels in 2016. He claimed that the judge was "unfair". Ten suspects are facing charges related to the attacks in March 2016 in which 32 people were killed. (AFP)

Fraud suspect avoids extradition to Denmark

Dubai A court ruled that a British hedge-fund trader suspected of masterminding a fraudulent \$1.7 billion tax scheme cannot be extradited to Denmark to face charges. Sanjay Shah, 52, is wanted for his role in one of Denmark's largest fraud cases. The scheme allegedly involved foreign businesses pretending to own shares in Danish companies and claiming tax refunds. (AP)

Thai protester jailed for clothes insult to queen

Thailand An activist was jailed for two years for mocking the Thai queen by wearing traditional clothing at a demonstration for reform of the monarchy. Jatuporn Saengweng wore a pink dress while a fellow protester held an umbrella over her at a mock fashion show in Bangkok in 2020. Queen Suthida often wears elegant silk clothes, attended by aides holding umbrellas. (AP)

Bannon hails 'Thatcher' of the Italian right

Italy

Tom Kington Rome

Steve Bannon, the former White House strategist to Donald Trump, has waded back into European politics and thrown his weight behind Giorgia Meloni, Italy's rising right-wing star.

"Like Thatcher, she will face opposition — but like Thatcher, she will win. And like Thatcher, history will prove her right," said Bannon, who arrived in the White House in 2016 and was Trump's closest adviser.

Meloni's Brothers of Italy party tops the polls before a general election on September 25 at which she could become Italy's first female prime minister.

Bannon is an influential conservative voice in the US thanks to his *War Room*

podcast, but he was convicted in July for ignoring a subpoena from a congressional committee investigating the January 6 riot at the US Capitol.

Last week he was indicted in the US on money laundering and conspiracy charges over Trump's attempt to build a wall along the Mexican border.

As his legal troubles rack up at home Bannon is again looking to ride a populist tide in politics in Europe after a previous attempt to unite populist parties lost momentum in 2018.

"I've said for years that Italy is the worldwide laboratory for the populist-nationalist revolution. The world needs to be watching very attentively Giorgia Meloni, and taking note," Bannon said.

"She is going to transform Italy from a failing, stagnant, bankrupt mess into

Europe's strongest economy with jobs and prosperity for all." He added that she "will be the next prime minister as much for her grit and determination as for her policies. It's her personality."

Bannon will now make regular appearances on the Italian edition of his *War Room* podcast, which goes out four times a week and was due to be launched last night, presented by Benjamin Harnwell, 47, a Briton who was in charge of Bannon's attempt to turn an 800-year-old monastery near Rome into a "gladiator school" for right-wing Christian politicians.

That attempt was blocked by the courts, and Harnwell said the podcast would mark Bannon's return to the European stage. "His network of personal relationships in Europe hasn't

gone away and there will be other podcasts following in Europe as a vehicle to use these relationships," he said.

In 2018 Bannon championed the populist government formed in Italy by the anti-establishment Five Star party and Matteo Salvini's anti-migrant League party, claiming: "Italy is all about nationalists vs globalists and they are showing the world the way." A year later the government collapsed when Salvini walked

Steve Bannon says that Giorgia Meloni will turn Italy's fortunes around

out. He is now a junior partner to Meloni in a right-wing alliance, while Five Star has faded as an election winner.

Harnwell said the pilot episode of Bannon's podcast would discuss the outcry from her party over the appearance of a character in the *Peppa Pig* children's cartoon with two mothers.

"This is not trivial," Harnwell said. "The Brothers of Italy have understood that political parties are not just about making laws, and that television is crucial in forming the ideas of children at an impressionable age."



ALAMY

The best paellas... are not made by Spaniards

When Jamie Oliver added chorizo to his paella, he suffered a culinary backlash from Spaniards of the like few had seen (Simon Hunter writes).

Thankfully, it did not deter other international chefs from having a go at Spain's national dish. A Valencian paella



by the Mexican restaurateurs Rogelio Castañón and Alfonso Ovalle won first prize and €2,500 at the 61st edition of the International Paella Competition in Sueca, Valencia, one of the homes of the dish.

What is more, second place in the competition over the weekend was won by a Chinese chef,

Binhui Jiang, from the Valencian restaurant Mesón Molino, and third by Mario Furlanello from the German eatery Bornheimer Ratskeller in Frankfurt, thus locking out Spanish chefs from the podium.

"We knew about the competition thanks to the semi-final held in Mexico," Castañón, from the restaurant Crocus Servicios Gastro-nómicos, told *The Times*. "We've been studying the recipe for four years, trying to do it well.

It's not one of our typical dishes in Mexico."

Contestants on Sunday were given the same ingredients in the same quantities — rice, rabbit, chicken, two types of beans, snails, and saffron — and the



The paella competition in Sueca gives contestants two hours to cook a classic dish

classic recipe. The chefs also had to prepare a wood fire to cook it.

They had two hours to cook, and were judged by a panel that included tourism officials, gastronomy experts, representatives from

rice associations and chefs, who blind-tasted the finished products. A total of 42 restaurants from 12 countries took part, and the outdoor event attracted viewers who could be heard commenting on the chefs' techniques as if

watching a sporting event.

The Sueca competition dates to 1961. It was opened to non-Spanish chefs in 1990 and since then has had winners from countries including the United States and Cuba,

the Spanish daily *El País* reported. Its semi-finals are held all over the world. Castañón said: "We respect the work that goes into a paella, and its tradition. Simple ingredients but difficult to cook. We like the classic recipe."

Ex-minister 'helped illegal migrants'

France

Adam Sage Paris

A fraudster, a former minister and a one-time senior police chief have gone on trial in Paris accused of influence-peddling on behalf of two illegal Moroccan immigrants.

They are among 19 defendants allegedly linked to widespread corruption in the heart of the Paris police force. All deny the allegations.

The case has stained the reputation of the police amid claims that officers have been subverting the laws they are supposed to be upholding.

The allegations date from 2014, when detectives were investigating Christophe Rocancourt, a convicted fraudster whose victims include Mickey Rourke and Jean-Claude Van Damme, the actors. Prosecutors told the Paris

criminal court that investigators had discovered Rocancourt, 55, had offered to intervene on behalf of Kawtar and Asmaa Kartoubi, Moroccan immigrants facing expulsion orders from France. The court heard that Rocancourt and a lawyer with whom he was acquainted had claimed they could get the sisters' expulsion orders overturned by paying people of influence.

Rocancourt is alleged to have put the sisters in touch with Kofi Yamgnane, 76, a former social affairs minister, and Christian Prouteau, 78, who was head of the elite police presidential security team in the 1980s. Yamgnane is alleged to have received €3,000 for trying to help the sisters. Both Yamgnane and Prouteau are among the defendants. They deny wrongdoing.

Prouteau in turn is alleged to have pulled strings for the sisters, contacting

senior officers including Bernard Petit, 66, then head of the Paris police CID, and Jo Masanet, 69, a former riot officer who headed the Association of Social Action of National Police Personnel, a police charity. Petit and Masanet are also accused of intervening in the case, which they deny.

The sisters held no particular importance for the defendants, prosecutors say. They are merely an example of how Paris policing was perverted by a culture of doing favours for friends and acquaintances, prosecutors say.

Masanet is also alleged to have generated €470,000 in illegal earnings from the police charity he was heading, while running up a total of €60,000 in restaurant bills. The bills were reimbursed by the charity, prosecutors claim. He denies the allegations.

The trial continues.

Hello, police? Please stop my drunken wife talking

Germany

David Crossland Berlin

A German man who couldn't stop his drunken wife talking to him eventually called the police.

The woman had returned from a festival in Rosenheim on Friday night and began speaking to him incessantly, ignoring his pleas to let him sleep.

He followed him around the house and stuck with him when he fled into the garden. He became so desperate that he phoned the police. As the man was "audibly frightened" and the situation could not be resolved by phone, the police dispatched a squad car.

"When they arrived, the extremely temperamental woman's need to com-

municate had still not petered out," the police directorate of the Traunstein district, southeast of Munich, said in a statement, adding that the woman was "apparently heavily intoxicated."

The officers persuaded the couple to compromise by staying apart in the house to enable the man, who was still visibly distressed, to get some sleep, but that only partly resolved the pair's difficulty.

After the officers left the woman rang up the Traunstein police and tried — during a long phone conversation — to make clear that it was her husband and not she who had had too much to drink.

"In conclusion, it is pointless to mention, but the man had appeared quite sober," the police said.

World

Seized papers were mine, not secret, claims Trump

David Charter Washington

Donald Trump's lawyers have argued that secret documents seized from the former president's Florida home were his and were not classified.

The criminal investigation into Trump's alleged retention of secret papers has "spiralled out of control", his lawyers said, urging a judge to stick with her appointment of a special master, an independent assessor.

The US Department of Justice lawyers say the appointment will hinder their investigation and they will appeal to a higher court if the judge refuses to let them get on with analysing what they found at Mar-a-Lago.

In a 21-page submission, Trump's lawyers stopped short of suggesting that the former president had declassified the documents — a claim he has made on social media but not in any court filings. However, they dispute the government view that they are classified and reject any suggestion they were shown to others.

"In what at its core is a document storage dispute that has spiralled out of control, the government wrongfully seeks to criminalise the possession by

the 45th president of his own presidential and personal records," the lawyers wrote.

"The government now seeks to limit the scope of any review of its investigative conduct and presuppose the outcome, at least as regards to what it deems are 'classified records,'" they added.

The lawyers said that "there is no indication any purported 'classified records' were disclosed to anyone" and that they were "principally located in storage boxes in a locked room at Mar-a-Lago".

Aileen Cannon, a district judge appointed under Trump, is being asked by the government to overturn her ruling appointing a special master.

The FBI says it found 18 documents labelled top secret and 54 marked secret in 15 boxes of papers seized on August 8. In June a lawyer for Trump had signed a letter to say that there was no more classified material at Trump's home in Palm Beach.

The most recent set of classified material was mixed inside boxes with books and clothes, according to a government inventory, and some was found in a desk drawer.



Fill it with fish A polar bear at a wildlife park in Harbin, northeast China, is left to play with the empty bag his dinner came in

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Soap opera's move online creates a family drama

United States

Will Pavia New York

Like many of its leading characters, the US soap opera *Days of Our Lives* has frequently seemed close to death only to revive in the sunshine of daytime television.

Yet for some devoted viewers this is the end of the road. Yesterday, for the first time since 1965, the soap opera no longer appeared on NBC but instead on a streaming platform.

"I will miss it," wrote a lady in Ohio, on a fan message board. "It has been part of my life for many, many years."

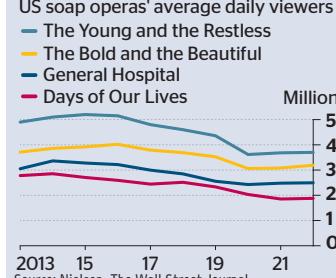
Another said it had been "passed down from generation to generation and remained on NBC even after all other soaps were cancelled". Now "some of those greatest longest fans will say goodbye".

Yet the departure of *Days* to the streaming platform Peacock also prompted a flurry of activity.

Elizabeth Capobianco, 35, a nurse from North Carolina, flew 500 miles to her grandmother's home on Long Island to install the streaming service so that she would not miss an episode. Because grandmother's television was rather old "it was a little more complicated than I expected," she

Loosing viewers

US soap operas' average daily viewers



Elizabeth Capobianco flew 500 miles to help her grandmother

said. Her grandmother Sidnee, who is 81, asked how she would record the show. "I had to explain that they live here for ever. You don't have to worry about running out of space. If you want to go back and watch an episode from three months ago, you can. It's a whole new world for her."



Sidnee typically watched the show at noon, and Capobianco had not yet heard from her. But because the show is now available from 6am each day, fans of the show she follows on Twitter began posting messages about the new episode early yesterday.

On a Facebook group, new streamers exchanged questions and advice about this new world. "It's weird," wrote one in Florida. "There is a narrator telling the audience how the characters are looking, feeling and what they are going to do. Has this happened to anyone else?"

It had, said Nancy Hussey in Rhode Island. "Maybe it's just the way it is?"

"Go to settings," someone else replied. "We've had to do this."

To make matters worse for some viewers, Friday's final episode on broadcast TV was cut short at a crucial moment. Gabi, one of the main characters, was in the family crypt telling her dead lover that she was moving on when NBC cut to Charles III's first official address.

Bezos rocket explodes after lift-off

Jacqui Goddard Miami

An investigation is under way at Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin spaceflight company after an uncrewed suborbital rocket failed shortly after being launched over the West Texas desert.

The New Shepard rocket, carrying a capsule containing 36 zero-gravity science experiments for clients including Nasa, suffered a malfunction about one minute into its ascent, triggering a mechanism that pulled the capsule clear as the booster

exploded. The capsule had travelled at 700mph and reached an altitude of just over seven miles. It landed safely in the desert under three parachutes.

"It appears we've experienced an anomaly. This wasn't planned ... our crew capsule was able to escape successfully," Erika Wagner, a director at Blue Origin, said on the webcast.

Blue Origin has enjoyed a near flawless flight programme since its New Shepard launch system debuted in April 2015. On that first flight, the spacecraft flew and landed perfectly

but the booster crashed. There have been 21 successful flights since — six with passengers, who have included Bezos, his brother, Mark, and the *Star Trek* actor William Shatner. Three crewed flights planned for this year are likely to be put on hold.

The booster that failed had not been used on crewed flights. Had a crew been on board they would have suffered sharp jolts and high gravitational forces. The rocket, which normally lands upright in the desert after launching the capsule, was lost.

Business

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Rupert Soames, the saviour of Serco, to stand down at end of year

Robert Lea Industrial Editor

Rupert Soames, the man who saved the government contractor Serco, is to stand down as its chief executive at the turn of the year, the company said in an announcement that hit its shares.

Underlining the significance of his departure yesterday, Soames, 63, said his greatest achievement during his eight-year tenure turning around a

company that runs key public services was that Serco "still exists".

In 2014 when he took over the company, once a darling of the stock market and go-to outsourcing contractor during the Blair and Brown governments, it faced investigations by the Ministry of Justice and the Serious Fraud Office over lies and malpractice under his predecessor Christopher Hyman.

He leaves a company with dividends

reinstated, record order books, which has successfully expanded into the US and Australia and had profit upgrades this year.

News of his planned departure sent shares in Serco down by 6.8 per cent, or 12½p, to 168p, the biggest faller on the FTSE 250 mid-cap index.

Until yesterday's slide in the share price as the market passed judgment on the importance of Soames to Serco, the

company's stock had more than doubled in the past four years, rising by 50 per cent in the past six months.

Serco employs 57,000 people globally and is valued at about £2 billion. Its latest filings show the company has an order book of more than £14 billion and that more of its annual revenues of £4.4 billion come from overseas, mainly the US and Australia. It expects to make £230 million profit this year helped by

the translational foreign exchange impact of the weak pound.

Soames will hand over on January 1 to Mark Irwin, 57. An Australian, he heads Serco's UK division, which runs immigration services, prisons, health service contracts and rail services for the government.

Analysts praised the "orderly" nature of the group's succession.

Man who set Serco's course, pages 38-39

Woodford advisers to pay redress

Up to £306m for investors in fallen funds

Patrick Hosking, Ben Martin

One of the advisers to the disgraced former investment star Neil Woodford faces a fine and an order to pay up to £306 million compensation to investors, the Financial Conduct Authority revealed last night.

Link Fund Solutions, which was the authorised corporate director to his main £3 billion Woodford Equity Income Fund, was responsible for "misconduct" and failings in managing its liquidity, the regulator said in an initial assessment. The FCA said that it was investigating "multiple parties" in connection with the scandal, which left more than 300,000 retail investors nursing heavy losses.

The statement, which was flushed out because LFS's Australian parent Link Group is on the receiving end of a takeover bid from a Canadian software group, Dye & Durham, was the first preliminary finding of wrongdoing by anyone after the fund collapsed in 2019. The regulator stressed that it was not a "final decision" and LFS could challenge its findings.

Woodford drew in more than £10 billion from retail investors attracted by his strong stockpicking record. But his funds got into difficulty as he switched focus from liquid blue-chip stocks to higher-risk unlisted equities. When investors started requesting redemptions he was unable to raise the cash. Equity Income was suspended and put into liquidation. Its collapse and that of its sister fund, the £250 million Woodford Income Focus Fund, led to questions in parliament and put a spotlight on moves by Woodford to try to meet the rules on unlisted investments.

Andrew Bailey, head of the regulator at the time, told MPs that Woodford had been "sailing close to the wind".

The regulator said last night that it was "likely to seek to require LFS to pay a financial penalty and/or consumer redress. The FCA's current view is that the redress payment LFS could be required to pay may be up to £306 million. This redress proposal reflects the FCA's current view of LFS's failings in managing the liquidity of the WEIF. It does not reflect any amount which may be owed to anyone else, including members of the fund, as a result of potential wrongdoing by other parties."

Dye & Durham announced that the regulator was only prepared to approve the sale of Link if it undertook to cover any shortfall in its assets up to £306 million. Link had made no contingent liability. Dye & Durham said it was assessing the regulator's condition.

The equity investment fund was valued at £10.2 billion at its peak in May 2017 but when it was frozen in June 2019 it was valued at £3.7 billion. As "authorised corporate director", Link's job was to approve the valuations put on the fund's investments as well as oversee its governance. It was also the organisation chosen to wind up the fund. About £2.54 billion has been returned to investors. By mid-June about £118.5 million was still locked in the fund.

Over four years Woodford, who is 63, and his lieutenant Craig Newman, extracted dividends of £98 million from Woodford Investment Management, which managed the fund. That helped finance a 1,000-acre Cotswolds farm, 18 horses, a Porsche, Ferrari and a six-bedroom holiday home in Devon.

Link declined to comment.



On top Advertising giant WPP promoted Karen Blackett to president of its British business. One of the few black women at the top of the UK's corporate ladder, Blackett is known as a champion for diversity and equal opportunity. Page 43

Pound falls on eurozone rate rise fear

Mehreen Khan Economics Editor

The pound touched its weakest level against the euro since 2021 as investors bet that the European Central Bank (ECB) will have to ramp up interest rates faster than expected to fight record inflation.

Sterling hit a low of 87.21 cents against the single currency in yesterday's trading, after official statistics showed that the UK economy had expanded less than expected in July. The pound recovered to trade flat on the day against the euro and rose by 1 per cent against the US dollar to \$1.17.

The pound has suffered from recessionary fears, tightening US interest rates and political uncertainty since the summer. Markets have priced in an aggressive pace of interest rate rises from the Bank of England, but this has not been enough to support sterling, which has underperformed against peers like the euro this year.

The euro has also been battered by similar concerns as investors have homed in on the bloc's energy crisis and driven the single currency to parity with the dollar for the first time in 20 years. But hawkish signals from the ECB, which raised rates by its largest in history last week, have helped boost the value of the euro.

ECB sources have hinted that rate-setters may need to lift interest rates to 2 per cent by next year to tame inflation, from the current 0.75 per cent. Chris Turner at ING bank said markets were upgrading their expectations for aggressive monetary tightening and were pricing in the possibility of another 75 basis point rise from the ECB next month.

The pound meanwhile was hit by another disappointing data release, which showed the economy expanded by 0.2 per cent between June and July, below economist expectations of 0.4 per cent. The granting of an extra bank holiday next Monday for the Queen's funeral has also stoked the prospect of economic contraction in the third quarter, which would mark the start of a recession.

Business

Need to know

1 Link Financial Solutions, one of the key advisers to the disgraced former investment star Neil Woodford, is facing a fine and an order to compensate burnt investors up to £306 million, the Financial Conduct Authority revealed last night. **Page 37**

2 Rupert Soames, who saved the government contractor Serco, is to stand down as chief executive at the end of the year, the company said in an announcement that hit its shares. Soames, 63, said his greatest achievement at Serco was that it "still exists". **Page 37**

3 The pound touched its lowest against the euro since last year as investors bet that the European Central Bank will have to ramp up interest rates faster than expected to fight record inflation. Sterling hit a low of 87.21 cents after official statistics showed the UK economy grew less than expected in July. **Page 37**

4 Shares in Ferrexpo rallied by more than 11 per cent after the Ukrainian miner was buoyed by progress in Kyiv's counter-offensive against Russia. The iron ore producer has been unable to export by ship since Ukraine's Black Sea ports were closed by Russia's invasion.

5 Abcam is to scrap its UK listing after investors backed a proposal by the biotech company to have its shares traded solely in New York. The decision by the Cambridge-based business is a blow to the London Stock Exchange as it wrestles with foreign competition.

6 The UK economy edged back to growth in July with output up by an estimated 0.2 per cent in the month, after a sharp 0.6 per cent fall in June. The modest rebound means gross domestic product stagnated at 0 per cent in the three months to the end of July. **Page 40**

7 Entain, the gambling group behind Ladbrokes and Sportingbet, is being investigated by the Australian authorities for possible breaches of money laundering and counterterrorism financing rules after a "campaign that assessed entities within the corporate bookmakers sector". **Page 42**

8 The owners of Asda were dealt a blow after a credit rating agency warned about the supermarket group's debts in the wake of its £600 million deal for the Co-op's petrol forecourts. Fitch Ratings said it was cutting its outlook on Bellas Finco from "stable" to "negative". **Page 43**

9 UK housebuilders lobbied the government to try to make it drop plans to install electric car chargers in every new home, it has been revealed. Barratt Developments, Berkeley Group and Taylor Wimpey were among those who submitted evidence to a government consultation. **Page 44**

10 Workers are resisting pressure from employers to return to the office. Businesses are keen to see a shift back to more traditional working patterns, research by Manpower found. **Page 45**

The man who set Serco on

Rupert Soames has transformed a firm that was reeling from an outsourcing scandal, **Robert Lea** writes

No chief executive over the past decade of political, economic, commercial and social upheaval and uncertainty will have found life straightforward.

Rupert Soames liked to put it thus: "No battle plan survives contact with the enemy."

Or just to prove that his points of reference were not just Prussian military strategists and that he could adeptly speak to the shopfloor, he might pull out the favourite axiom of the former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson: "Everyone's got a plan until they get punched in the mouth."

Serco was a lurching punch-drunk former champion when Soames was called up to lift the company off the canvas with the haemorrhaging of cash and the bruising to its reputation all self-inflicted.

Under the stewardship of his predecessor, Chris Hyman, the company was found to have been lying to its main customer, the Ministry of Justice, on the performance of one of its marquee contracts, the movement of prisoners to court appearances and the electronic tagging of offenders. The Serious Fraud Office became involved. Reparations from Serco hit £100 million.

That, a decade on from those misdemeanours, Serco was the government's main contractor to implement ministers' controversial test-and-trace response to the spread of Covid-19 and has become the main conduit for handling, accommodating or repairing the country's burgeoning asylum seeker problem, is testament enough to the eight-year turnaround at the company.

The accounts tell the same story in a different way. In his first year in charge in 2014, Soames totted up the number of legacy, onerous, unprofitable contracts that the company was tied to and came up with losses and provisions totalling £1.3 billion. Within weeks of breaching its banking covenants, he launched a £550 million rescue rights issue.

As a result of that ability

to charm the City and persuade them to keep the faith he became referred to in some quarters as St Rupert; not because he had the patience of a member of the heavenly host but because he was working miracles at a company in such a diabolical state and preventing it from joining the choir invisible.

That these were uneasy times for the so-called outsourcers, the private companies trusted with delivering public services in the shadow privatisations of the previous two decades, would be an understatement. Carillion didn't make it. The likes of Mitie and Capita are still going through long multi-year turnarounds because of the mis-steps of previous chief executives. Balfour Beatty in a parallel sector would be one of the few, under its similarly reforming chief executive Leo Quinn, to have made the transition back from the land of the corporate undead.

As the UK navigated the choppy waters in the aftermath of the decision to secede from the European Union, Soames, 63, became frustrated with the lack of investor appetite for a stock that he saw as a safe haven with repeatable long-term government contracts.

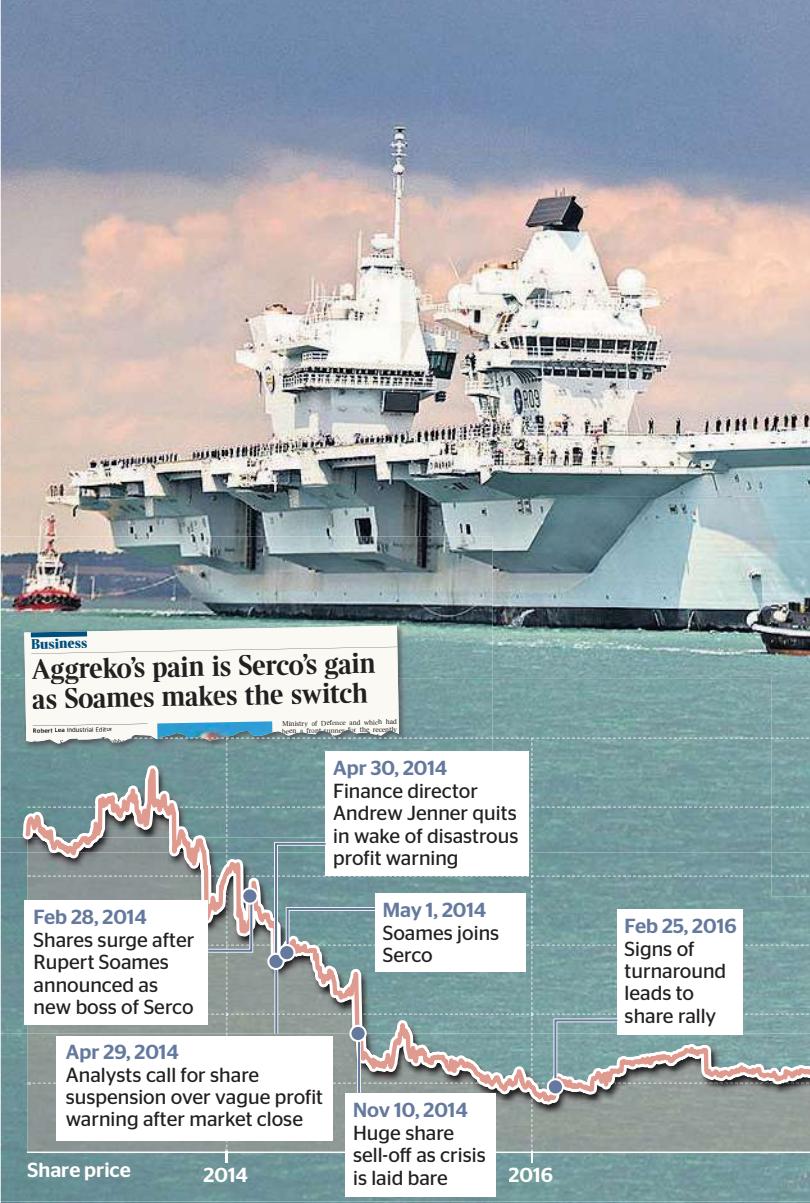
"Our lighthouse is shining and the green lights into the harbour are on," he once said trying to rustle up support from investors who instead wrinkled their nose at the unpleasant or unpalatable jobs that government does not want to do but Serco does.

That said, Soames had always argued that the recovery would not be rapid. Or, as the former student disc-turner at the society club Annabel's would comment, plucking a musical analogy, it was going to be "a long and winding road". As he will be 64 by the time he leaves Serco he is whimsically whistling another tune — *"will they still need me, will they still feed me?"* — though in reality he is likely to remain handy to mend a corporate fuse if the lights go out.

Never reticent in conjuring up the imagery of his grandfather Sir Winston Churchill, he talked early in his leadership of Serco's "darkest hour" — he has been an arch-mobiliser of the English language to make a point. Of the Serco he inherited, he said: "We knew there was a very large pile of manure." It was, he said, his role to cali-

Rupert Soames improved Serco, which has a record £14 billion order book

Steadying the ship



brate just how large it was and how to clear up.

The manure dealt with, he hands over control of a company with a record order book of more than £14 billion, paying dividends once more and which twice this summer has upgraded profit forecasts. Until recent weakness, exacerbated yesterday by the announcement of his decision to retire, Serco shares were trading at their highest

levels since the falling knife that was the Serco share price he had inherited in 2014.

What next for Serco is likely to be more of the same: keeping close to governments and winning long term public service contracts; and more expansion in the US, its new revenue engine, in Australasia and as most recently revealed a tilt at markets in continental Europe. Soames is one of the last of the

Boost for Ferrexpo from Ukraine counter-offensive

Emily Gosden

Shares in Ferrexpo rallied by more than 11 per cent yesterday after the Ukrainian miner was buoyed by progress in Kyiv's counter-offensive against Russia.

The FTSE 250 iron ore pellet producer has been hobbled by an inability to export by ship since Ukraine's Black Sea ports were shut after Russia's invasion. In June exports by barge were also curtailed by a Russian missile strike on a crucial bridge.

Ferrexpo was forced to scale back its production as a result and is producing at less than half its normal capacity, with exports via rail only.

These exports have also been affected by the need to prioritise moving out Ukraine's grain harvest.

Ukraine's counter-offensive has succeeded in recapturing swathes of terri-

tory from Russian forces in the past week. Thousands of Putin's troops have fled in the worst defeat for Russia since March, leading to talk of a possible turning point in the war.

Ben Davis, an analyst at Liberum Capital, said it was "incredibly encouraging that Russia is very much on the back foot" and the share price was "a clear reflection on how the war's going".

Ferrexpo obviously got hit hard when this started, and it's going to recover very strongly when it hopefully does come to a final end.

"Whether and when that is, it's still hard to say, but at least it's going in the right direction now," he said.

Ferrexpo's shares lost more than half their value in the first week of the war, touching lows of 108p in early March, but closed yesterday up 17½p, or 11.3 per cent, at 173½p — the highest since it was

forced to scale back production in June.

Ferrexpo, led by Jim North, has three mines near the city of Horishni Plavni in central Ukraine. It produced 11.2 mil-

11.3%

Increase in Ferrexpo share price

Source: London Stock Exchange

lion tonnes of iron ore pellets, used in steel-making, last year, generating revenues of \$2.5 billion and net profit of \$871 million. In the first half this year it produced 4.8 million tonnes of pellets and reported revenues of \$936 million.

Davis said the progress seen in the war in recent days was unlikely to make much practical difference to Ferrexpo's operations in the near term. Grain ship-

ments have resumed from Ukraine's Black Sea ports but exporting these stockpiles continues to take precedence over iron ore shipments.

However, the developments would raise hopes of a return to higher production and exports.

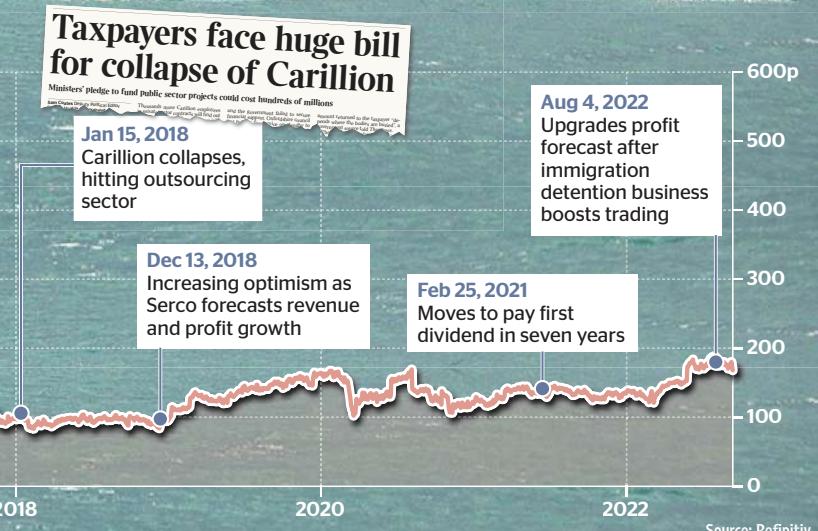
"The biggest catalyst will be opening up exports out of Ukraine," Davis said. "If the war ended tomorrow, Ferrexpo would double. If you think, given what's happened over the past week, we're likely to see this war ending in a six month view, which then ultimately opens up all the export routes for them, then Ferrexpo is obviously a great stock to buy at this point."

Ferrexpo's biggest shareholder is its former chief executive Kostyantin Zhevago, who stepped aside in 2019 to fight allegations of embezzlement in Ukraine, which he denies.

course for riches



CROWN COPYRIGHT
Britain's newest aircraft carrier, the Prince of Wales, is towed out of Portsmouth by Serco tugs



class of Arnie, business leaders who earned their stripes working for Arnold, Lord Weinstock at GEC and who have an inherent distrust of accountants showing you a profit but no attendant inflow of cash.

Another Arnie alumnus is David Lockwood, the chief executive going through a Serco-like turnaround at Babcock, the Ministry of Defence contractor. It has long been the argument

of those who indulge in fantasy M&A or investment bankers eyeing a future Christmas bonus, that a merger of two contractors like Serco and Babcock would produce an international outsourcing powerhouse.

That Soames has completed his job at Serco and that Lockwood is doing a Soames at Babcock makes such a deal in the years to come more rather than less likely.

Investors back Abcam delisting plan

Ben Martin

Abcam is to go ahead with a plan to scrap its London listing after investors backed a proposal by the biotechnology company to have its shares traded solely in New York.

The decision by the Cambridge-based business is a blow to the British stock market as it wrestles with competition from foreign exchanges. Abcam has a market capitalisation of almost £3 billion, making it one of the biggest groups on Aim, London's junior market. It is also quoted on the Nasdaq in America.

The company revealed in July that it intended to cancel its Aim listing but said it would consult with shareholders. Abcam said in its half-year results yesterday that it had "received positive responses from all consulted" and would

call an investor meeting to approve the plan in the coming weeks. Abcam is the type of company that the government is keen to have listed in London. The life sciences business was founded in 1998 by Jonathan Milner, who was a post-doctoral researcher at Cambridge University, Tony Kouzarides, a professor of cancer biology at the university, and David Cleevely, an entrepreneur.

The group joined the Aim market in November 2005, when it was valued at £57.5 million. It is now one of the country's biggest biotech companies and supplies antibodies, reagents, biomarkers and assays to researchers. It took a secondary listing on the Nasdaq in October 2020.

Ministers in the UK fear that many high-growth tech and life sciences companies are choosing to list in markets other than London, hitting the

Musk makes new claim in fight to void Twitter deal

Katie Prescott
Technology Business Editor

Twitter has hit back at claims that, by paying its former head of security turned whistleblower, it violated the terms of its \$44 billion agreement with Elon Musk to buy the business.

Lawyers for the world's richest man sent a third termination agreement to Twitter on Friday, saying it should have asked for his permission before paying \$7.75 million to Peiter Zatko, known as Mudge. They claim the sale agreement restricted when the social media business could make such payments and it was yet another reason for Musk to scrap the deal. In response, Twitter said the statement was "invalid and wrong".

In July, Twitter sued Musk, who is also chief executive of Tesla, the maker of electric vehicles, to hold him to the agreement he made in April to buy the company for \$54.20 per share.

Musk amassed a 9 per cent stake in Twitter this year, declined an invitation to join its board then walked away after agreeing the deal with no due diligence. It is alleged he got cold feet as global politics and inflation rattled markets.

Zatko, represented by Whistleblower Aid, claimed publicly that Twitter hid weaknesses in its security and data privacy and misrepresented the number of fake accounts on the platform. Questioning the number of bots on the site formed the basis of Musk's original case for stepping back from the deal. Zatko's revelations were a shot in the arm to Musk's attempts to walk away without paying a \$1 billion termination fee.

This month, a judge in Delaware's Court of Chancery, the US's leading commercial court, ruled Musk could use Zatko's claims in his case against Twitter, but cannot delay the trial, expected to open on October 17.

Today Zatko will meet the US senate judiciary committee to discuss the allegations, and Twitter shareholders are expected to approve the merger when they cast their votes.

Twitter shares were down by 67c or 1.6 per cent at \$41.51 yesterday.

City's status as a global financial centre. Government-commissioned reviews have suggested ways to overhaul London's rules to make it a more attractive destination for businesses and some of the recommendations have been adopted by the Financial Conduct Authority, the City regulator.

Abcam's decision to focus on its New York listing is a setback to such efforts. The US is popular with tech companies because they tend to be more highly valued by American investors.

Revenues at Abcam rose to £185.2 million in the six months to the end of June, from £150.2 million a year earlier. Adjusted operating profits, which strip out one-offs including factors linked to last year's \$340 million purchase of BioVision, rose by 61 per cent to £42.6 million. Abcam shares closed up 2 per cent at £13.10.

Soames's cleaning job has paid off

BUSINESS COMMENTARY Alistair Osborne

Luckily Rupert Soames knows what comes with running Serco. "Getting kicked is part of my job," he says. "That's why I have a big arse."

So, the man who's just decided to "outsource" himself after eight years as chief executive can take this sort of jibe. That, since taking charge in May 2014, the shares are down from 290p to 168p. Meantime, the latest full-year underlying trading profits, though up 40 per cent to £229 million, are still below 2013's £285 million before he pitched up. To boot, his tenure also starred 2015's dilutive £555 million rights issue at 10p. Even now, the shares are barely above the 154p ex-rights price. What return is that for total pay of £28 million — and counting?

Put like that, you wonder what Serco chairman John Rishton is on about when he praises Soames for his "successful turnaround". But, putting it like that is pretty unfair on the man who'll be handing over to Serco's UK & Europe chief Mark Irwin at the end of the year. The bald figures hardly tell the story, as the 7 per cent share price drop on news of Soames's exit implied. He inherited a vast clean-up job: one he likened to finding a horse in "a pile of manure". And, while he says, "the foal is trotting along nicely now", it's been a slog to get it race fit.

Soames, the grandson of Sir Winston Churchill, has only himself to blame for landing the job. Serco was under investigation by the justice ministry and Serious Fraud Office after overcharging for tagging criminals, some of whom turned out to be already in prison or even dead. But the ex-Aggreko boss called the headhunter himself.

He found a company run for accounting profit, not cash, heading for a covenant breach. By March 2015, he was booking £1.3 billion of "onerous contract provisions" and lining up a rescue cash-call. He took a decision all the trickier, too, given the breakdown in relations with UK government: that Serco would get out of private sector work, largely call centres, and focus on working for governments at home and abroad. The result is a portfolio that spans operating six UK prisons, the Caledonian sleeper, contracts to house or detain asylum seekers here and in Australia and, after a push by Soames, US defence work.

"Governments do difficult stuff," he says, aware that Serco will win few popularity contests, not least for its role running half the call centres for Covid Test and Trace on which the government somehow blew £37 billion — only a fraction with Serco. On his desk, Soames keeps a bogbrush, what he calls his "shit-o-meter": a daily reminder not only of what can go wrong but that "if we can't make a 5 per cent margin doing the complex things we do, we may as well clean toilets".

In outsourcing, progress is relative too. On Soames's watch, Carillion and Interserve have gone bust, while Capita's revamp has produced a shrunken group. At Serco, valued at £2 billion, the latest full-year figures showed free cashflow up 40 per cent to £190 million, while net debt is now sub £600 million.



Soames had the guts, too, to force a rethink on his UK government paymasters over how it awards outsourcing contracts. Aghast at its obsession with the lowest price bidder, he declared in 2018 that it was "bureaucratic, price-driven, unpredictable, capricious, complicated and inflexible": an outburst, he says, that improved relations. Bowing out with eight months' pay for "strategic advice" looks generous. But, on balance, investors will thank Soames for putting his posterior on the line.

Odds and ends

If only Entain had offered punters a Yankee on this: the group getting embroiled in four set-tos with the authorities. Six doubles, four trebles and an accumulator. Imagine the odds on all that.

The Ladbrokes, Coral and Sportingbet owner has already been done twice by Britain's Gambling Commission for its prowess on the safer gambling and anti-money laundering fronts: a £5.9 million fine in July 2019 and a £17 million whack only last month. On top, HMRC has now spent more than two years scrutinising "potential corporate offending": an inquiry disclosed only days after the man who built the business, Kenny Alexander, quit after 13 years with just a day's notice.

And now? Australia's financial crimes regulator Austrac has started an "enforcement investigation" over whether Entain had the controls in place to manage "the risks of money laundering and terrorism financing" (report, page 42).

True, the market shrugged it off, with Entain shares rising 3 per cent to 12.57%. And the company noted that the Aussie inquiry spans July 2016 to June 2020: on Alexander's watch, not the present boss Jette Nygaard-Andersen, in charge since January 2021, even if she was a non-exec from December 2019. But she does keep saying: "We continue to lead our industry on responsibility."

And it can't help that Entain is vying with Australia's Tabcorp for local state wagering licences, even if its rival was fined A\$45 million in 2017 after similar Austrac action. Lately, Entain is well ahead in the regulatory run-in stakes.

Respect data

First, football cancelled for all the wrong reasons. Then, the Bank of England delaying the interest rate decision: a stance rightly criticised by fund manager Toby Nangle, who tweeted: "Running the wrong macroeconomic policy for a week is not an act of respect".

Now? Heathrow's traffic figures for August, released without any comment from the boss John Holland-Kaye (report, page 42). How come? "Out of respect for the wider events taking place, we are only releasing the required data and no additional commentary," a spokesman says. Can't have Holland-Kaye lowering the tone.

alistair.osborne@thetimes.co.uk

Business

Growth creeps back up with 0.2% rise

Arthi Nachiappan
Economics Correspondent

The UK economy edged back to growth in July with output up by an estimated 0.2 per cent in the month, after a sharp 0.6 per cent fall in June.

The modest rebound means that gross domestic product, the main measure of output, stagnated at 0 per cent in the three months to the end of July.

City economists had forecast 0.4 per cent growth over the three months, and warned that the economy remains at risk of dropping into a “shallow” recession as the cost of living crisis hits households and businesses.

Samuel Tombs, chief UK economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said: “The economic recovery has petered out, but has not gone into reverse yet.”

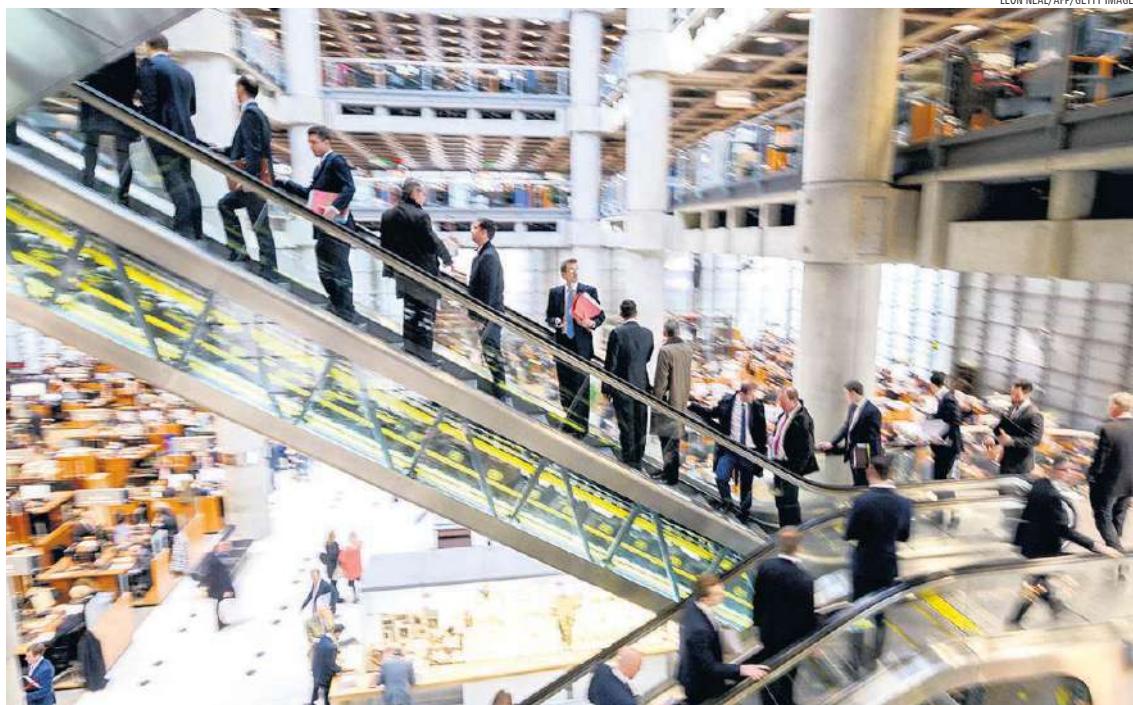
The services sector grew by 0.4 per cent in July, after a fall of 0.5 per cent in June, and was the main driver of the rise in GDP. Information and communication grew by 1.5 per cent and was the largest contributor to the services growth in July.

Production fell by 0.3 per cent after a drop of 0.9 per cent in the previous month. This was mainly because of a fall of 3.4 per cent in electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply.

Construction also fell in July by 0.8 per cent, after a fall of 1.4 per cent in June. The decrease in monthly construction output came solely from a fall in repair and maintenance work, which declined by 2.6 per cent.

Output in consumer-facing services grew by 0.6 per cent, after flat growth in June. Consumer-facing services remained 4.3 per cent below their pre-coronavirus levels.

Martin Beck, chief economic adviser to the EY ITEM Club, said: “Reading through the month-to-month volatility, the economy appears to have little momentum, with the level of output in July broadly the same as in April. It’s touch and go if GDP will see a second successive quarterly contraction in the third quarter.”



The services sector including Lloyds of London, the insurer, was one of the main contributors to the rise in GDP

Behind the story

When the Bank of England predicted that the UK would enter a 15-month recession this winter, there was no autumn package to support households with the upcoming rise in energy bills and no plans for an extra bank holiday in the third quarter (Arthi Nachiappan writes).

It was expected that the downturn, which was likely to be driven by high energy bills eating into household budgets and eroding consumer spending, would shave just over 2 per cent off gross domestic product (GDP) by mid-

2024. The new bank holiday in the third quarter for the Queen’s funeral is likely to hit output because fewer people are working.

Analysts at the Pantheon Macroeconomics consultancy estimate that the impact of the bank holiday, which is scheduled for September 19, will knock about 0.2 percentage points off GDP in September.

The economy contracted by 0.1 per cent in the second quarter of the year and would need to shrink in the three months to September, when compared with the same period last year, to meet the conditions for a recession, which is defined as two

consecutive quarters of negative growth.

Influential business surveys have weakened since July, with the purchasing managers’ index suggesting that the private sector stagnated in August and growth in the dominant services sector is weakening.

The results suggest that GDP “merely held steady” in the third quarter, but the country may still avoid a recession, according to Samuel Tombs, chief UK economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics.

Other analysts have suggested that any recession may be less severe than previously expected.

He added that households face further decline in their real incomes in the second half of the year, which will suppress consumer spending.

“Last week’s announcement of an energy price guarantee should greatly reduce the risk of the economy experiencing a deep recession, but the next year or so will still be very challenging for the economy.”

One of the main drivers of low growth over the spring was a fall in healthcare activity driven by the winding down of the coronavirus Test and Trace programme. Growth was also dented by the extra bank holiday for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June.

Bank holidays bring about a rise in spending on hospitality and leisure, but this is typically not enough to offset the fall in output across other sectors.

Before the announcement of the government’s energy bills support package on Thursday, the Bank of England warned that the UK was heading into a 15-month recession, which would knock more than 2 per cent off total GDP, beginning this winter.

Inflation is running at a 40-year high of 10.1 per cent, driven by the soaring cost of energy bills.

Policymakers are concerned that the fall in real incomes, which is the value of pay packets after adjusting for the impact of inflation, will reduce consumer spending and push the country into an economic downturn.

Some analysts have said that a recession now looks less likely because the freezing of household energy bills at £2,500 for two years, along with the £400 cash payment promised by Rishi Sunak, the former chancellor, will alleviate the pressure on household incomes and leave more money to spend.

However, the period of national mourning after the death of the Queen and the bank holiday for her funeral are expected to dent output in the third quarter.

KPMG said the UK economy “could see another shallow recession from the end of this year, driven by the ongoing squeeze on households’ income and a rising cost burden for businesses”.

Trade deficit narrows but is still set to hit a record high

Arthi Nachiappan

The trade deficit narrowed in July due to a strong rebound in exports after the Jubilee bank holiday but it is still set to rise to a record high as a share of GDP, analysts warned.

The deficit, which shows the difference between the value of imports and exports, narrowed to £7.8 billion in July from £11.4 billion in June as firms caught up on sales after the extra day off.

The trade deficit, which has been made worse in recent months by the soaring price of energy imports, remains high by historical standards. The average deficit in the 2010s was £2.2 bil-

lion, and in the past two years it rose to £4.4 billion.

The UK is a net importer of energy and was subject to the surge in wholesale energy prices during the pandemic, which were later exacerbated by the Russia-Ukraine war and resultant sanctions.

The deficit in fuels trading, which includes spending on oil and natural gas, rose to £5.6 billion in July, from £5.1 billion in June. That is more than three times the 2021 average of £1.7 billion.

Exports of goods in July rose by 6.7 per cent, driven by rises in the exports of ships, mechanical machinery and vehicles to the United States and China. This pushed the 5.4 per cent rise

in non-EU goods exports, while the volume of sales to the EU rose by 7.9 per cent.

William Bain, head of trade policy at

£7.8bn

UK trade deficit in July, lower than the £11.4 billion figure in June

Source: ONS

the British Chambers of Commerce, which represents businesses, said: “July was a better month for UK trade than the previous month. We are seeing trade in fuels, particularly oil and gas, at

elevated levels. Vehicle and other mechanical engineering exports did well too.”

However, exports remain weak compared with previous years, coming up 8.4 per cent short of pre-Covid levels, while imports were 3.9 per cent higher than before the crisis.

The trade deficit will hit a record high as a percentage of GDP by the end of the year, according to Gabriella Dickens, senior UK economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics.

“The trade deficit will reach enormous proportions over the coming months,” she said. “For starters, futures prices suggest that the monthly trade deficit in natural gas, contained within

the fuels component, will increase to about £8 billion by the end of this year, from £1 billion in July. In addition, past experience suggests that sterling’s recent depreciation initially will boost the value of imports more than exports.”

She added: “Furthermore, exports likely will continue to struggle as external demand in key trading partners softens and Brexit frictions remain in place. All told, then, we expect the trade deficit to grow to a record 7.5 per cent of GDP in the fourth quarter, from 4.7 per cent in the second quarter, making sterling even more sensitive than usual to changes in overseas investors’ sentiment.”

Leading economies losing momentum, bar Japan and India

Patrick Hosking Financial Editor

Most of the world’s major economies are losing momentum, with only Japan and India standing out from the crowd, according to a new study that seeks to predict future growth patterns.

The UK, US and eurozone bloc were all signalling a slowdown in the next six to nine months, according to the composite leading indicators study by the Organisation for Economic Coopera-

tion and Development. The study looks at measures such as order books, building permits, confidence surveys, new car registrations and other clues to future activity. The indicators include data taken as recently as August 2022.

“Among large OECD economies, the composite leading indicators continue to anticipate a loss of growth momentum in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as in the euro area as a whole including France,

Germany and Italy,” it said. Only Japan and India were billed as pointing to stable growth in the latest monthly study.

China, which in July was showing “signs of stabilizing growth momentum”, was said to be losing impetus.

In the UK, the leading indicator has dropped from 102.02 in September 2021, falling every month to a new recent low of 97.51 in August. A score of 100 denotes the long-term average.

China, the world’s second biggest

economy, played a key role after the global financial crisis in 2008-09 in softening the world downturn, but economists argue it may not do so this time.

Robin Xing at Morgan Stanley said: “Such optimism should be tempered as China’s economy is in a fragile condition — we forecast below-consensus 2.8 per cent GDP growth this year.”

China has been hit by an imploding housing market and continuing Covid-related shutdowns, though Xing pre-

dicted a “modest rebound” of 5.2 per cent growth in 2023.

Markets expect new US data today to show a fall in headline inflation from 8.5 per cent in July to 8 per cent in August. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said the US can avoid recession — though it will require “some good luck”.

She told CNN that while growth was slowing, the labour market remained “exceptionally strong”, with almost two vacancies for every jobseeker.

Patrick Hosking

This is not the time for rate-setters to be taking their eyes off the ball

“

Life must go on — but not, apparently, at the Bank of England. There's been some

puzzlement in the City over why the central bank has decided to suspend policymaking for a week after the death of the Queen.

Trading is going on as normal at the London Stock Exchange, Lloyd's of London and other financial institutions. As far as I'm aware, they are still toiling away normally at the Treasury, the business department, the Financial Conduct Authority and other regulators.

But Threadneedle Street took the decision to postpone setting interest rates by a week. This Thursday's monetary policy meeting has been deferred and its decision will now have to wait till next Thursday.

The Bank has given no explanation beyond a brief statement that it was "in light of the period of national mourning." But as Downing Street and Buckingham Palace have made plain, there is no obligation on any organisation to suspend business. Official guidance is that "public services will continue as usual".

Her Majesty's entire philosophy was based on stoicism, service and the great virtue of soldiering on whatever the circumstances. To do anything less while invoking her name risks looking like self-indulgence.

To do so in the face of the worst inflation threat to Britain in 40 years — and the greatest policy challenge — looks even more odd. Inflation is five times the target of 2 per cent and is almost certainly going higher.

The pound is close to a 37-year low, while the government bond market is anxiously wondering how Liz Truss's energy price guarantee package is going to be financed, especially at a time when the Bank is supposed to be embarking on its long-flagged gilt-selling programme.

In the past year the Bank has been wrongfooted by the ferocity of the inflation surge, accused of moving too late and too



Threadneedle Street is to postpone setting interest rates by a week



slowly. A seven-day delay to the next interest rate rise, which markets believe is a nailed-on certainty, may be a well-meant courtesy but it feeds into the image of a lackadaisical and complacent central bank already well behind the curve.

As one former fixed-income fund manager, Toby Nangle, tweeted after the Bank announcement: "Running the wrong macroeconomic policy for a week is not an act of respect."

Nor does it really chime with the image post-Brexit Britain wants to project to the rest of the world as an energetic, modern economy open for business at all times and comfortable with the pressures and disciplines of the international money markets. It's all faintly Ruritanian. The Bank's relationship with the palace is cordial but no more than that, and not especially historic. The monarch's face only started appearing on banknotes in 1960. Charles and Camilla last visited in October 2020.

The racing world — the Queen's great and reciprocated love — postponed the St Leger by a day, but has since pushed on with business as usual, apart from the funeral day itself. Why the Bank's governor Andrew Bailey felt the need for a bigger gesture is not clear.

It all comes at an extraordinarily important time for monetary policy. The energy package, or as much as we know of it, will deliver two very different forces. On the one hand, it will produce a cut to the headline inflation rate of as much as 4 percentage points on what it would otherwise have been, based on current international gas prices.

According to Oxford Economics, consumer price inflation will now peak at perhaps 10.5 per cent in January 2023, rather than the 14 to 15 per cent it had pencilled in. Over 2023, it will average about 5.4 per cent, not 10 per cent as forecast.

On the other hand, the package will provide a massive fiscal stimulus. If, as is expected, the £150 billion cost is to be borrowed rather than paid for out of taxation, it will be a major stimulus to the economy — which is

bound to exacerbate existing inflationary pressures.

These remain concerning. The labour market remains hot. Wage inflation picked up to 6.4 per cent in August, according to Bank survey data. Food price inflation is very high: food producer price inflation rose to 14 per cent in June, while imported food prices are 19.3 per cent higher, according to the latest data. Sterling's slide is adding to the pressure.

And then there is a question mark about help for businesses. Unlike households, who are shielded for two years, businesses are only promised protection for six months. So the Bank, looking 18 months ahead, should already be considering the inflationary pressures that could be reignited next spring.

The latest inflation data drops tomorrow. Analysts expect the August CPI figure to come in unchanged from July at 10.1 per cent. It may even dip, which would be the first fall in 11 months. Petrol and diesel prices fell by a weighted average of 6.8 per cent in August. But for autumn, the direction of travel is still higher.

There's one other reason for the Bank to be seen as especially alert, credible and steadfast at this time. The sacking last week of Sir Tom Scholar, the Treasury's permanent secretary, has raised eyebrows not just in the civil service but in the financial markets too.

Truss and her chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng are largely unknown quantities and their disdain for what they call Treasury orthodoxy has rattled some. Truss has accused the Treasury of "abacus economics" but still hasn't demonstrated what she wants to see in its place. Some people rather like abacus economics if it means a check on government borrowing and a scepticism about the policy of growth at any cost.

Without robust advisers in place, the Treasury could succumb to "the orthodoxy of the yes man", Scholar's predecessor Lord Macpherson warned in the *Financial Times*. If they start to wobble in Great George Street, it's even more important that the country can trust in a firm counterweight in Threadneedle Street.

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Patrick Hosking is Financial Editor of The Times

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Tackling
The Cost
of Living
Crisis

Mehreen Khan

Energy caps are not a long-term solution but buy time to find one

We have reached the point in the energy crisis where western governments are grasping the nettle and proposing radical spending measures to prevent their economies from collapse this winter.

In the past week, the UK and European Union have tabled policies to tackle rocketing energy bills that could have been scarcely conceivable even a few months ago.

The aim is to save households and businesses from having to face the cost of eye-watering gas prices through taxes and market intervention. Both are "price caps" but are radically different approaches to the conundrum.

The cap's fatal flaw is it does not force homes and businesses to use less power this winter'

In Britain, new prime minister Liz Truss said that energy bills for the average household will be limited to £2,500 from October for the next two years. This means temporarily doing away with the much-maligned Ofgem price cap and exposing the government to a potentially exponentially rising energy bill if market prices keep climbing.

The UK cap has some advantages. The intervention is of a scale that is warranted by the looming cost of living crisis. At about an estimated £150 billion, it propels the UK to near the top of Europe's ranks for emergency spending measures. The cap will help to drastically lower inflation, put more money in consumers' pockets that would have otherwise gone on utility bills, and reduce the depth and length of a potential recession.

The cap's fatal flaw is that it does nothing to force households and businesses to use less power this winter. This is the part of the energy crisis equation that has to shift if the UK is to build a path towards energy security. The cap is a subsidy for all households and will disproportionately benefit the well-off who consume more and will now get a hefty discount on their bills.

Andy Mayer at the Institute of Economic Affairs has dubbed it "middle class welfare on steroids ...

it will mean future taxpayers subsidising hot tubs, heating swimming pools and cooling wine cellars."

Brussels is facing a similar headache but has acknowledged that any price interventions will have to be accompanied by sweeping demand reduction targets. The European Commission wants all EU countries to reduce power usage at peak times for about three to four hours a day. The binding targets are due to be tabled this week. In general, the EU's interventions are not aimed at limiting retail prices as in the UK, but instead acting earlier in the energy supply chain.

Brussels has put forward a number of options, the most radical being a price cap on all wholesale gas supplies. This would involve the bloc setting a strict limit on what it is willing to pay in the market. It risks having the perverse side-effect of making the supply crunch even worse in the short-run. If EU countries are not willing to pay top dollar for liquefied natural gas as they currently do, those LNG cargoes will simply be redirected to the highest bidder (likely in Asia).

The other main policy under consideration is a windfall tax on non-gas electricity producers such as renewables and nuclear power generators. Under the current EU energy market, these companies benefit from the soaring price of electricity, determined by the price of gas. Brussels wants to limit the "excess" profits of these non-gas players. Again, it is well intentioned but short-sighted. It sends a worrying message to the continent's green producers who need to ramp up investment in sustainable technologies if Europe is to wean itself off fossil fuels.

Both the UK's and EU's caps are ill-fitting. In the white heat of crisis, governments face an apparently impossible trinity: few emergency policies can simultaneously achieve the aims of reducing demand, limiting price rises and stimulating the green transition. At best, the hope is that the caps can buy time for policymakers to come up with sweeping structural changes to their energy markets that will limit these painful trade-offs for good.

Mehreen Khan is Economics Editor of The Times

Business

Entain faces investigation over laundering and terror

Dominic Walsh

The gambling group behind Ladbrokes and Sportingbet is being investigated by the Australian authorities for possible breaches of money laundering and counterterrorism financing rules.

Entain Group is being scrutinised by the Australian Transaction Reports

and Analysis Centre (Austrac), the government's financial crimes regulator, after "an extensive supervisory campaign that assessed entities within the corporate bookmakers sector".

News of the investigation sent shares of the FTSE 100 company down by 16½p, or 1.4 per cent, to £12.02, making it the biggest blue-chip faller in early

trading. However, it quickly regained the lost ground and at the close it was up 39p, or 3.2 per cent, at £12.57½.

Nicole Rose, Austrac chief executive, said that all reporting entities, including those in the corporate bookmaking sector, "must take seriously their role in combatting serious and organised crime". She added: "Reporting enti-

ties have a responsibility to ensure they identify, assess and manage risks of money laundering and terrorism financing, develop adequate processes and devote the necessary resources to comply with their anti-money laundering and counterterrorism financing obligations."

Entain is one of the world's biggest sports betting and gaming groups, with brands including Bwin, Coral, Eurobet, Foxy Bingo and Ninja Casino. In America it operates via a joint venture with MGM Resorts International. The company has 4,425 betting shops across the UK, Italy, Belgium and the Republic of Ireland.

Austrac said that it had a range of regulatory tools and enforcement powers available to it and "will not hesitate to take action where suspected non-compliance is identified".

It said its supervisory campaign with the corporate bookmakers sector "may lead to other areas of focus in this sector", although as the investigation had not concluded it was unable to comment further.

Entain is going head-to-head with Tabcorp, Australia's biggest gambling company, for state wagering licences in Western Australia and Victoria. The British company made an unsuccessful A\$3.5 billion (£2.1 billion) bid for Tabcorp's wagering and gaming unit last year.

The Australian enforcement investigation into Entain comes less than a month after the company was fined £17 million by the UK Gambling Commission over "unacceptable" breaches of rules on safe and crime-free gambling.

Andrew Rhodes, the commission's chief executive, said: "There were completely unacceptable anti-money laundering and safer gambling failures. They should be aware that we will be monitoring them very carefully and further serious breaches will make the removal of their licence to operate a very real possibility."

The company was fined £5.9 million in July 2019 by the commission for past failings in anti-money laundering and social responsibility. The fine was made against Ladbrokes Coral Group a year



after it was acquired by GVC Holdings, now renamed Entain Group.

The various transgressions by Entain have proved awkward for the company's chief executive, Jette Nygaard-Andersen, 53, who since her appointment last year has put a big focus on safe and crime-free gambling, although she has pointed out that the failings investigated by the Gambling Commission had happened before she assumed the role.

She has said she was confident that the upgrading of its controls during the past 18 months had left Entain "well-prepared for when the white paper comes out".

Entain confirmed yesterday it had been notified by Austrac that it had conducted "a standard assessment" of Entain Australia's historical anti-money laundering and counterterror-

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Heathrow flier numbers stall beneath pre-pandemic levels

Ben Martin

Passenger numbers at Heathrow airport remained below pre-Covid levels last month despite more than doubling from a year earlier.

Britain's biggest airport said that it was used by just over 6 million travellers in August, up from 2.2 million a year ago but below the 7.7 million people who had passed through Heathrow in the same month in 2019, before the pandemic. In total, 38.4 million fliers used its terminals this year, it said.

The figures come as Heathrow's bosses seek to put a summer of turmoil behind the airport. The London hub is still operating under a cap, which limits daily passenger numbers to 100,000, after a surge in travellers.

Demand to fly has rebounded as the pandemic has receded, but Heathrow and other airports have struggled to cope after cutting staff during the coro-

navirus crisis, which had crippled the aviation industry.

The shortage of experienced staff this summer led to chaos at airports, cancelled flights and criticism from travellers who had their holidays disrupted, prompting Heathrow to impose its unprecedented cap in July to reduce pressure on its services.

The hub's daily limit was originally meant to end on Sunday but was last month extended until October 29.

John Holland-Kaye, the Heathrow chief executive, usually provides a commentary with the airport's monthly traffic statistics but did not yesterday because of the death of the Queen.

Heathrow is owned by a group of international investors but there is uncertainty over its shareholder structure after it emerged last month that Ferrovial, the Spanish infrastructure giant, was considering whether to sell its 25 per cent stake in the airport.

MARK EVANS/GETTY IMAGES
The Rosehill Gardens racecourse in Sydney. The Australian investigation comes less than a month after Entain was fined £17 million in the UK



ism financing policies and procedures. "Entain Australia notes Austrac's decision and is co-operating with the investigation which relates to the historical period from July 2016 to June 2020," it said.

It also faces an investigation into a possible breach of the UK Bribery Act, this time based on its foray into the illegal Turkish gambling market.

In July 2020 HM Revenue & Customs, which had been conducting a wider inquiry into the processing of payments for online gambling in Turkey, expanded its inquiry to examine "potential corporate offending" within the group.

In its last annual report, Entain said that it "continues to cooperate fully with HMRC's enquiries" and pointed out that it had sold the Turkish business in 2017.

Behind the story

For an industry that claims to have put its dubious past practices behind it, the scale and breadth of failings that keep popping up in the gambling sector is remarkable (Dominic Walsh writes).

In the past five years, the UK Gambling Commission, the industry regulator, has slapped more than £130 million of fines or financial penalties on individual companies and the levying of new fines continues apace.

And it is not only the small, flakier outfits that are being penalised. The worst transgressor is Entain Group and its Ladbrokes

Coral Group business, which last month was fined £17 million.

The commission said that the FTSE 100 group would have to pay £14 million for failures at LC International, which runs 13 websites, and £3 million for breaches at its Ladbrokes Betting & Gaming division, which runs 2,746 betting shops across Britain.

Among the customers of its betting shops was a delivery driver who was known to have lost £17,000 in a year yet was allowed to continue betting. Another punter was allowed to deposit £525,000 online between December 2019 and October 2020 before the company closed the account because of a failure to supply

evidence of source of funds, which broke anti-money laundering rules.

Ladbrokes Coral was fined £5.9 million in July 2019 for anti-money laundering and social responsibility failings. One customer spent £1.5 million over a period of almost three years, yet Coral did not ask for the source of their funds.

The frequency with which the commission has been involved has been cited as one of the reasons for the government's decision to review the gambling industry and to produce a white paper that redraws the Gambling Act 2005.

The white paper has been long delayed, most recently because of the changes at 10 Downing Street.

Fitch cuts its outlook on Asda owner

Ben Martin

The owners of Asda were dealt a blow yesterday after a leading credit rating agency warned about the highly-leveraged supermarket group's debts after its £600 million purchase of Co-operative Group's petrol forecourts.

Fitch Ratings said it was cutting its outlook on the investment vehicle that owns Britain's third-biggest supermarket chain from "stable" to "negative".

It said the move reflected the extra £200 million of debt that Asda will use to help finance the Co-op deal, as well as a downgrade to the grocer's likely earnings this year. The decision will probably draw renewed attention to the grocer's financial structure.

The billionaire Issa brothers teamed up with TDR Capital, the private equity firm, to buy Asda for £6.8 billion in a debt-fuelled buyout that completed in February last year.

The grocer's new owners put in a relatively small amount of equity, less than £800 million, when acquiring

Asda, with the deal mainly funded by debt that was loaded onto the supermarket group. It is one of the biggest leveraged deals and has left Asda with a large interest bill, which amounted to about £375 million last year.

The acquisition from the Co-op was announced at the end of August and involves the purchase of 129 petrol forecourts with convenience stores and three development sites.

Asda is paying for the purchase with £238 million of cash and £200 million of debt. Including lease liabilities, the deal was valued at about £600 million.

Fitch said it had changed its outlook on Bellis Finco, the buyout vehicle used by the Issa brothers and TDR, because it believes the company's leverage "will not remain commensurate" with its credit rating over the next two years.

It cited the extra borrowing Asda is taking on to fund the Co-op purchase and Fitch's decision to cut its 2022 earnings forecast for the supermarket to about £850 million, from £1.1 billion. Bellis Finco is rated BB- by Fitch, which

is a non-investment grade, or "junk" rating, and means that it pays higher yields on its debt compared with safer investment grades.

Fitch said the Co-op deal was positive for Asda because the convenience segment of the market is "typically growing ahead of larger supermarkets" and has higher profit margins.

"However, we do not see this as materially changing its business profile, as Asda will continue to have a lower exposure to convenience than the other Big Four supermarkets," it added.

A spokesman for Asda said: "We remain focused on our long-term strategy to become the UK's number two grocery retailer by delivering value to customers and giving them more opportunities to shop with us."

The Blackburn-based Issa brothers made their fortune through their EG Group petrol stations business. It is thought that the addition of the Co-op forecourts to Asda's estate will draw the attention of the Competition and Markets Authority, the regulator.

Electrolux warns on profits as rising prices hit demand

Times Business Reporter

Europe's biggest home appliances maker Electrolux warned on profits yesterday, as high inflation and low consumer confidence hit demand.

The Swedish maker of washing machines and fridges said that the drop in demand in Europe and the United States accelerated in the third quarter and customers are expected to continue to delay purchases in Europe.

Jonas Samuelson, chief executive, said: "For as long as we see consumer confidence at these very low levels in combination with very high general inflation ... people will hold on to their wallets quite hard."

High retailer inventories and supply chain imbalances also increased costs and inefficiencies, the company said.

"Third-quarter earnings for the group are expected to decline significantly compared to the second quarter

GroupM's Blackett to be president of WPP UK

Katie Prescott

WPP, the world's biggest advertising company, has promoted Karen Blackett to a newly created role as president of its UK business.

The FTSE 100 company said the move "recognises the importance of the UK as WPP's home market and its second largest after the United States" and it brings the UK in line with other markets, namely the US and Australia, which have appointed presidents.

Blackett, 51, is currently in a dual role as both country manager and UK chief executive of GroupM, WPP's media investment business. She will step down from GroupM, with a successor to be announced in due course.

Outside the advertising business, she holds a suite of other roles including acting as an external adviser to the Cabinet Office on diversifying the civil service, holding a non-executive seat on the board of Creative England, a not-for-profit supporting the creative industries and she is also chancellor of the University of Portsmouth.

On her Twitter profile, after listing all of her appointments, she describes herself as "exhausted Mum" to her son.

One of the few black women at the top of the UK's corporate ladder, she is well known as a champion for diversity and equality of opportunity. She was the first woman to top the Powerlist 100 of most influential black Britons.

WPP employs about 109,000 people, 12,000 in the UK, and is behind the Ogilvy, GroupM and Hill+Knowlton Strategies businesses. The group was built by Sir Martin Sorrell, who left in acrimonious circumstances four years ago and was succeeded by Mark Read.

Blackett said: "I'm delighted to be able to hand the baton to a new leader with the organisation in good health."

In its results for the first half of the year, WPP said it had not seen any sign of clients cutting spending. Net revenue rose by 12.5 per cent to £5.51 billion, compared with £4.9 billion in the same period last year. Pre-tax profit rose to £419 million, up 6.1 per cent on the first half of 2021. An interim dividend of 15p per share, 20 per cent up on last year, will be paid at the start of November.

2022 also excluding the one-time cost to exit the Russia market," it warned. The update appeared to unsettle investors in other consumer appliance companies. Shares in AO World fell 3.2 per cent, or 15p, to 48p on the London Stock Exchange.

However, Electrolux said that cost cuts across Europe and North America would boost profits in 2023.

"The programme, which starts immediately, will focus on reducing variable costs, with special attention to eliminating cost inefficiencies in our supply chain and production."

Electrolux has invested heavily in its North American factories, but Samuelson said the pandemic and component shortages had delayed an increase in production.

Shares in Electrolux, whose brands include Frigidaire, fell by as much as 7 per cent before closing up by 1.5 per cent, at 51.44.

Business

THE TIMES

Business briefing

Stock markets across the world remain volatile following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Oil and gas prices have been spiralling, while British companies are scrambling to cope with the effects of soaring costs. With the situation changing by the

hour, keeping up to date is essential. Get the latest news and market reaction by 8am, and analysis at 12.30pm, direct by email from the Business Editor, Richard Fletcher, and the Business News Editor, Martyn Strydom

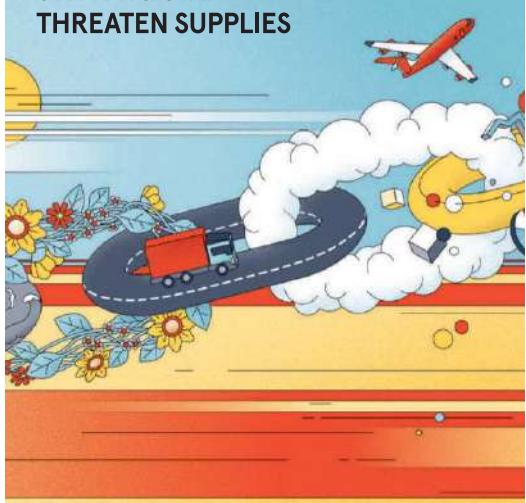
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Housebuilders fought against plan to install car chargers

Katie Prescott

The UK's largest housebuilders lobbied the government to try to make it drop plans to install electric car chargers in every new home, a freedom of information request has revealed.

The FTSE 100 construction companies Barratt Developments, Berkeley Group and Taylor Wimpey were among those who submitted evidence to a government consultation, speaking out against the proposals.

Under laws which came into force in June this year, all new homes, supermarkets and offices in England will have to feature electric car chargers. The change was designed to address fears over a shortage of plug-in points.

The consultation into these proposals opened in July 2019 and was hailed as a world first, "cementing the UK's position as global leader in the race to net zero emissions".

Chris Grayling, the transport secretary at the time, said: "Home charging provides the most convenient and low-cost option for consumers — you can simply plug your car in to charge overnight as you would a mobile phone."

In response, housebuilders argued against the plans, raising a plethora of issues, including soaring costs, along with warnings that the charging points could tie people into technology that could slip behind the times or prevent them from buying cars from overseas which might have a different charger. They also brought up the danger of electric shocks. The responses were obtained by *The Guardian* newspaper.

When the policy was announced, the government said that it would lead to up to 145,000 charging points being installed across the country over the next decade and that 70 per cent of vehicle

charging would be done at home. Similar proposals are being considered by the Welsh and Scottish governments.

There is an exemption for new homes where the installation of a charge point would increase the grid connection costs by more than £3,600, to ensure developers do not have to take on excessive costs, although cable routes will still be mandatory.

While the government has said it is a commercial decision for housing developers to decide whether to pass the cost on to consumers, it set out the view that installing it during construction would provide the best value for money.

The government will ban the sale of new pure petrol and diesel cars by 2030, with hybrids using a combination of battery power and a combustion engine following in 2035. However, there are mounting concerns that the plan to phase out petrol and diesel cars risks being undermined by the lack of infrastructure to support electric vehicles.

A spokesman for the Home Builders Federation (HBF) said the industry is committed to meeting the legislative requirements, but argued that the strategy needed to be implemented in a more co-ordinated way.

"New-build homes are considerably more energy efficient than existing ones and the industry has demonstrated a commitment to engaging on this agenda and is committed to installing chargers such that it provides customers with choice."

"If the policy is to be implemented successfully, proposals have to be deliverable for housebuilders, product manufacturers and energy providers alike. We need to ensure standards and equipment are standardised and that energy networks have the necessary capacity to cope with levels of demand."



From 2035, all new car sales must be of electric models, such as the Audi E-tron. Installing a home charger is the most cost-effective recharging option

"Government also has to ensure that all the policy requirements of different departments and their cost implications and combined impact on viability are considered in totality and not on an individual basis", he said.

Other housebuilders said that things have moved on since the original consultation and that the issue historically was with take-up rates and weighing up the merits of putting in a charger that might not get used.

Berkeley Homes said: "We are fully supportive of electric vehicles and are putting in more than 12,000 charging

Loeb steps back from calls to spin off ESPN

Dominic Walsh

The billionaire activist investor pushing Walt Disney Company to spin off ESPN has stepped back from his position, admitting that he now had "a better understanding" of the potential of the sports TV network.

Daniel Loeb, a New York-based investor, posted on Twitter that he looked forward to seeing James Pitaro, the ESPN chairman, execute the growth and innovation plans and generate "considerable synergies" as part of Disney.

In August, Loeb, who runs the hedge fund Third Point, had disclosed a stake of about \$1 billion in Disney and had been planning to get the company to spin off ESPN and to integrate the Hulu streaming platform into the Disney+ consumer platform.

Loeb said that he now had a better understanding of ESPN's potential as a standalone business and its ability to reach a global audience to generate advertising and subscriber revenues.

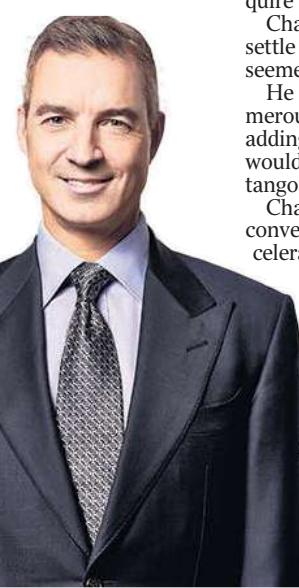
In a letter to Bob Chapek, the Disney chief executive, last month Loeb

argued that spinning off ESPN would give the sports channel "greater flexibility to pursue business initiatives that may be more difficult as part of Disney, such as sports betting".

However, he appeared to step back from his call for Disney to sell or spin off ESPN after Chapek promised to restore its former position as a driver of growth at the company.

Chapek, whose contract at Disney was recently extended by three years, told the *Financial Times* the potential of ESPN was "within the Disney company" adding: "We have a plan for it that will restore ESPN to its growth trajectory. When the rest of the world knows what our plans are, they will be as confident about that as we are."

ESPN broadcasts live sports in the US, including the National Football League, National Basketball Association and Major League Baseball. Loeb has also



urged Disney to buy out Comcast's 33 per cent in Hulu before the January 2024 date when it has the option to acquire the remaining shares.

Chapek said that he was keen to settle the issue, but Comcast had seemed reluctant.

He said: "we have talked to them numerous times over the past year-plus", adding: "If that were in the cards we would love to do that, but it takes two to tango."

Chapek added that he has been in conversation with Comcast about accelerating the timetable. "I would think it would make sense to them because it's inevitable."

Third Point, based in New York City, was founded by Loeb in 1995. He serves as chief executive and oversees all investment activity, with a particular emphasis on special situation equities, distressed debt and risk arbitrage.

Daniel Loeb said that he had a better understanding of ESPN than its owner, Disney

Staff are refusing to return to offices, employers report

James Hurley

Workers are resisting pressures from their employers to return to the office, according to a closely watched survey.

Businesses are keen to see a shift back to more traditional working patterns after the pandemic resulted in millions of people working from home, research by Manpower found. However, the employment agency said that businesses were engaged in a "balancing act of keeping their existing employees happy while phasing out remote work for new candidates".

Chris Gray, a director at Manpower, said: "Existing employees are more likely to have the bargaining power to retain their home-working benefits, but new candidates will increasingly see pandemic-era benefit offers in the rear-view mirror."

The poll of 2,030 employers asked if they intend to hire more, maintain headcounts or reduce the size of their workforce in the final three months of this year. While hiring intentions dipped compared with the answers for the previous quarter, hiring confidence remained positive across all sectors.

The power balance has begun to swing back towards employers, with candidates faced with less bargaining power as employers prioritise retaining their existing workforce.

"Employers are keen to get people back into the office. However, employ-

75%

Employees who refused a new contract that did not guarantee remote work

Source: Manpower

ees still have a lot of bargaining power," Gray said. "Over the last 12 months we have seen employers offer unprecedented benefits, from hefty signing bonuses to fully remote working in order to attract skilled candidates. But as demand for new workers cools, candidates are less able to secure these benefits — though many existing employees don't want to give them up. One of our clients saw 75 per cent of employees decline new contracts that didn't guarantee fully remote work."

Gray said there was a "shift from

candidates holding all the cards to employers now having the leverage to ask candidates to come into the office — at least some of the time". He added that employers were increasingly requiring candidates to live within commuting distance of the office.

Almost half of working adults were working from home at times during the pandemic, according to the Office for National Statistics.

The Manpower survey, said to be the most comprehensive of its kind, is used by the government and the Bank of England as an indicator of economic sentiment.

The banking, finance, insurance, and property sectors had the strongest employment outlook, although sentiment had cooled compared with the previous quarter and last year.

Gray said a fall in hiring intentions did not mean layoffs were on the cards. "This is especially true in banking, finance and insurance, which has recorded a one-third increase in employee retention plans," he said. "Evidence that despite employers trying to phase out working from home, employees are being retained — a sign that employee bargaining power remains strong."

Conflict of interest cited as boss sacked

Jonathan Ames Legal Editor

One of England's publicly listed legal companies has sacked its chief executive over a potential conflict of interest, the Ince Group has confirmed.

The maritime law specialist practice announced in July that Adrian Biles, 55, would stand down as the company's boss as well as resign from its board.

He had said he would continue in post until the conclusion of a move by the business to raise £8.6 million to stave off "financial difficulties".

In its statement to the market yesterday, Ince said that the fundraising project was completed on August 16.

It said that Biles "has been removed as a director of the company with immediate effect, as a result of circumstances which may give rise to a conflict of interest between [him] and the com-

pany". The group said that Biles's father, John Biles, had been replaced as its financial boss after an "expedited process" with regulators to give approval to Jillian Watt as his replacement.

Donald Brown, a former executive director at the company, had already replaced Adrian Biles in the top role.

Ince Group refused to give details of any possible conflict of interest between it and its former chief.

It is understood that, as of last week, Adrian Biles held 3.1 per cent of shares in the firm, while both he and his father additionally held a joint 1.4 per cent of shares.

This is a significant drop from September last year when Adrian Biles held 16 per cent. It is also down on the 20.6 per cent he held in January 2020.

Ince is the current manifestation of Ince & Co, a City maritime law firm that

was bought for £34 million in 2019 by Gordon Dadds, one of the UK's six publicly listed legal practices.

That purchase was beset by difficulties as Ince & Co was put into administration after Dadds said that it would not buy its assets as part of a solvent acquisition. Dadds ultimately rebranded the business as the Ince Group.

This year, senior Ince staff were reported to have been in a row in Cardiff, where restaurant waiters accused them of "inappropriate" and rude behaviour.

John Biles announced his retirement shortly afterwards and the company launched an independent investigation into the incident.

A spokesman for the company would not comment on whether Adrian Biles's potential conflict was related to the restaurant incident.

points in our new developments."

A spokesman for Barratt Developments said: "Back in 2019 our view was that the industry did not have sufficient supply chain capacity to support full EV charging point rollout nationwide for every new home built and that there was insufficient choice for customers.

"Since then, as the country's leading national sustainable housebuilder complete with science based targets to reduce emissions, we have worked closely with the sector and government to help introduce regulations which give customers the best possible choice

whilst being practical for the industry to deliver at scale."

A government spokeswoman said that developers could buy charging infrastructure in bulk, reducing the overall costs of installing charge points in homes and that most of the charge points are "untethered" which means people can charge any type of vehicle, regardless of plug type.

"Given the market and technology of EVs develops so quickly, we want to ensure that charge-point infrastructure buildings are futureproofed to the best extent," she said.

Landlord Grainger says hard times mean affordable rents

Ben Martin

The boss of Grainger has said it is taking a "responsible approach" to rent rises amid the cost of living crisis as Britain's largest quoted residential landlord posted a pick-up in growth.

The FTSE 250-listed company yesterday said occupancy across its portfolio of homes remained at a record 98.2 per cent in the 11 months to the end of August, while prospective customer enquiries were also at a record high.

It posted like-for-like rental growth of 4.5 per cent for the period, up from the 3.5 per cent in its first-half results.

Helen Gordon, chief executive, said it had seen "the strongest rental growth we have seen in a decade" but was also "very mindful of the financial challenges facing many individuals". She said: "We are therefore taking a responsible approach to rental increases, ensuring affordability for our customers remains a central consideration and balancing rent increases with retention."

Newcastle-based Grainger was

founded 110 years ago and is a landlord, with about 10,000 flats and houses across the country and a pipeline of another 10,000 rental properties. Analysts at Berenberg, the stockbroker, said rental growth was better than expected and showed "the speed at which the company can pass-through pricing in the current inflationary environment".

A spike in energy prices has driven inflation to a 40-year high.

Consumer price inflation stood at 10.1 per cent in July. However, Gordon said that Grainger's rental inflation instead tracked wage inflation. "That's people's ability to pay," she said. Average pay, excluding bonuses, was up 4.7 per cent in the three months to June, according to the Office for National Statistics. Underlying real wages were down 3 per cent because of inflation.

Gordon said Grainger was taking steps to help its tenants manage their costs. This includes free broadband and complimentary gyms in newer homes.

Shares in Grainger rose 5½p, or 2 per cent, to 272¾p.

THE TIMES
Enterprise Network

How I made it

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HG Capital Trust rises above technology sector turbulence

Katie Prescott

Technology Business Editor

The estimated value of the portfolio of one of Europe's biggest investors in unquoted technology companies rose in the first half of the year, despite turbulence in the technology sector.

HG Capital Trust announced a 1.8 per cent increase in net asset value per share to £4.43, valuing its fund at more than £2 billion. It will pay shareholders a dividend of 2.5p per share in October, up from 2p last year. Its share price rose 30½p, or 8.3 per cent, to 399p.

The FTSE 250-listed HG gives investors exposure to expanding businesses in the technology sector, particularly those that focus on digitising and thus speeding up business processes. Its companies include small business technology, tax and payroll, insurance and healthcare IT services. It was created in 2000 via a management buyout at Merrill Lynch.

In its latest report HG said that an investment of £1,000 20 years ago would

now be worth £18,370, a total return of 1,737 per cent. An equivalent investment in the FTSE all-share index would be worth £3,521.

Technology shares have tended to fall in value over the past year as sentiment towards them has soured amid fears over inflation and the risk of recession.

Tech shares are sensitive to the prospect of higher interest rates as investors value them based on expected future earnings. Higher rates hurt the value of those earnings. Valuations in the HG portfolio were hit by falls in the valuations of public companies which are among the benchmarks used to calculate the worth of their businesses. However, this was offset by "strong trading performance", it said.

HG returned £260 million to its clients in the first half, including £47 million from the sale of its stake in Medifox, a digital marketing business.

David Toms, head of research at HG said that short-term valuations created space for those with "a disciplined approach and strategy".



Business Markets

Emma Powell Tempus

Buy, sell or hold: today's best share tips



NEWS IN BRIEF

New boss of sofa giant

Steve Johnson has been appointed the new chairman of DFS, Britain's biggest sofa retailer. The former Matalan executive chairman will succeed Ian Durant, who will retire at the end of the year. Johnson, 58, joined the board of DFS in December 2018 and is chairman of the remuneration committee. Durant, 64, who has been non-executive chairman since May 2017, will step down in November. DFS expects sales in excess of £1.15 billion this year and of £1.4 billion in four years. Shares in DFS closed up 4½p at 137½p.

Allwyn's lottery win

Allwyn International moved another step closer to taking over the next National Lottery, which begins in February 2024, after IGT, the technology partner of Camelot, followed the lead of Camelot in withdrawing its appeal at losing the licence. Camelot, which has run the lottery since it began in 1994, said last week that it had decided not to contest the loss of the fourth licence. The withdrawals paves the way for Allwyn to begin the start of the fourth lottery.

Job cuts at Goldman

Goldman Sachs is said to be preparing to cut hundreds of jobs as soon as next week. The US investment bank will lay off staff as part of its annual performance reviews, which it had suspended for two years after the pandemic, sources told Reuters. Goldman, which has about 47,000 staff, reinstated performance reviews earlier this year after a slowdown in mergers and initial public offerings. In July, it warned it may slow hiring after reporting a 48 per cent slump in quarterly profit.

Self-drive firm to list

A Coventry-based autonomous vehicle developer is to list on London's junior Aim market this week with a valuation of £20 million. Aurigo said it had conditionally raised £8 million through a placing of shares, backed by institutional investors, and expected to start trading on Thursday. The company is focused on self-driving electric vehicles for the aviation sector. Aurigo said the proceeds of the placing would be used for growth in its aviation division.

RENTOKIL INITIAL

Market cap £10.3 billion **Half-year revenue** £1.57bn

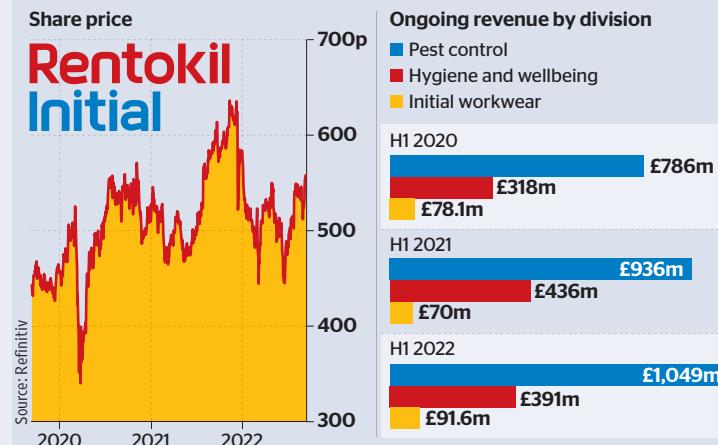
Rentokil Initial, the world's biggest pest control company, has a target on its back. The stock has become the sixth most shorted in London, with short positions at 5.6 per cent of its outstanding share capital, from zero at the start of this year.

Why? It is related to the FTSE 100 constituent's \$6.7 billion cash-and-shares purchase of American rival Terminix, which is on course to complete this year. Hedge funds have tried to profit on uncertainty over whether the deal will complete, taking short positions in Rentokil and betting that Terminix will rise. These funds make money as the spread between the two share prices closes because a deal becomes more likely to go through.

The shares now trade at 28 times forward earnings, below a peak of 37 at the end of last year and back closer to a ten-year average profit multiple of 24. Investors shouldn't balk at that premium.

Scale is Rentokil's best weapon in driving revenue and profit margins towards long-term targets. Increasing the density of contracts within individual postcodes cuts travel time for the group's technicians and improves their efficiency. Over the past five years, the pace of organic revenue growth

In the crosshairs



ADVICE Buy

WHY Room for shares to move higher over the medium term as its scale increases further

has increased from 3 per cent to 12 per cent and the net operating margin has risen to 14.9 per cent, from 11.5 per cent.

A record of beating organic growth targets for the pest control business and a belief that more emphasis on hygiene and air quality will continue after the pandemic prompted managers to increase the annual revenue growth target to 6 to 9 per

cent, from a previous goal of 5 to 8 per cent. Management has set a margin target of 18 per cent by the end of this year in its core North American market, which it expects to meet through more mergers and acquisitions, higher organic growth and the efficiency of a new IT platform in the US. Higher labour, fuel and chemicals costs are passed on via price rises, which provides some buffer against rising cost inflation.

That margin target excludes any potential benefit from the Terminix deal. Terminix operates across 375 cities in the United States, which will dramatically increase Rentokil's scale within a market that accounts for

half of global pest control revenues. More defensive pest control revenues will account for about 80 per cent of the enlarged group's total after the deal. The transaction will also reverse the residential/commercial revenue mix to 60-40 per cent from 40-60 per cent and should mean that North America accounts for about two thirds of group profit, from roughly 40 per cent at present. That could prove a short-term boon for Rentokil's bottom line in the face of a strengthening dollar, which should provide a translation benefit.

What about its debt pile? Net debt stood at £1.4 billion at the end of June, or 2.2 times adjusted earnings before taxes and other charges, which analysts at RBC Capital expect to increase to £2.9 billion by the end of this year post-Terminix completion, or a leverage multiple of 3.7. By the end of next year, the brokerage reckons that leverage will have fallen to a multiple of 2.1, on net debt of £2.5 billion. Crucially, that deal has been financed by fixed-rate bonds that mature in five years' time at the earliest. In fact, the bulk of Rentokil's debt is at a fixed rate.

In the medium term, rising interest rates will make the cost of funding a heavily acquisitive model more expensive. But Rentokil is also highly cash generative and funds a chunk of its bolt-on acquisitions from free cashflow. A sale of the workwear business would unlock more cash, which could be used to finance bolt-on deals or pay down debt. Rentokil deserves a premium valuation.

MOBIUS INVESTMENT TRUST

Discount/NAV 6 per cent **One-year return** -16 per cent

For investors trying to weigh the merits of emerging markets, recent history is not an entirely useful frame of reference. Between inception in 2018 and the end of last year, Mobius Investment Trust had a total return of 54 per cent, outpacing both the MSCI World Index and its own benchmark. This was a period when ultra-low interest rates, tame inflation and the post-pandemic recovery helped to buoy sentiment towards developing economies, supports that have since receded.

Since the start of this year, share price total returns have turned negative for Mobius, to the tune of 16 per cent. That is worse than losses recorded by the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, caused by an absence of booming commodity stocks within the trust's portfolio. But then Mobius is an outlier among investment trusts focused on emerging markets. It is heavily underweight China, which accounted for less than 10 per cent of assets in July, and is instead tilted towards Taiwan and India, which make up almost 40 per cent of net assets. China is a "black box", according to Mobius's co-manager Carlos Hardenberg, with a lack of transparency and more uncertain

regulatory backdrop making the region less desirable than other emerging markets, he says.

More stable governance and rising domestic consumption and spending power make Taiwan and India more appealing, Hardenberg reckons. A skew towards the technology and healthcare sectors is designed to capitalise on those trends. Since the trust's inception, being overweight both countries would have paid off, but since the start of 2022 growing tensions with China have prompted a sell-off in Taiwanese equities.

The risk of invasion could continue to represent an overhang to firms listed or making a chunk of money in Taiwan. A strengthening dollar

and the risk-off approach adopted by investors also remain challenges to emerging market equities. Mobius can point towards a track record of outperformance against the MSCI Emerging Markets Index since its formation, with a net asset value return of almost 37 per cent versus the index's 6.5 per cent. Mobius should hold more water than emerging markets peers in a volatile period.

ADVICE Hold

WHY Further volatility looks priced into the shares, which trade at a discount to NAV

PRICES

Major indices

New York	Zurich
Dow Jones 32381.34 (+229.63)	SMI Index 10990.75 (+90.51)
Nasdaq Composite 12266.41 (+154.10)	DJ Euro Stoxx 50 3646.51 (+76.47)
S&P 500 4110.41 (+43.05)	
Tokyo Nikkei 225 28542.11 (+327.36)	
Hong Kong Hang Seng 19362.25 n/a	
Amsterdam AEX Index 696.87 (+10.90)	
Sydney ASX 7208.20 (+69.20)	
Frankfurt DAX 13402.27 (+314.06)	
Singapore Straits 3274.72 (+11.77)	
Brussels BEL20 3722.45 (+59.07)	
Paris CAC-40 6333.59 (+121.26)	
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
CPI 122.54 Jul (2015 = 100)	
RPI 343.20 Jul (Jan 1987 = 100)	
RPIX 290.10 Jun (Jan 1987 = 100)	
Morningstar Long Commodity 677.16 (+5.72)	
Morningstar Long/Short Commodity 4703.45 (+27.75)	

London Financial Futures

Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol	Open Int
Long Gilt						
Sep 22	107.09	107.18	107.03	107.30	34	13339
Dec 22	105.39	106.25	105.18	106.20	177660	650402
3-Mth Sterling						
Sep 22	98.885	98.890	98.860	98.866	3885	301735
Dec 22	98.820	98.825	98.790	98.806	7310	347378
Mar 23	98.785	98.795	98.755	98.771	8310	229855
Jun 23						
Sep 22						
3-Mth Euribor						
Sep 22	98.960	98.960	98.935	98.955	112689	565743
Dec 22	97.940	97.970	97.895	97.945	185731	862234
Mar 23	97.575	97.645	97.550	97.610	136444	766427
Jun 23	97.475	97.550	97.445	97.520	99221	476545
Sep 23	97.495	97.580	97.455	97.550	93321	381359
Dec 22	100.68	100.68	100.67	100.68	710	31355
3-Mth Euroswiss						
Sep 22	100.61	100.62	100.59	100.62	488	22748
Mar 23						
Sep 22						
FTSE100						
Sep 22	7409.5	7486.0	7372.0	7479.5	345098	519926
Dec 22	7404.5	7497.5	7384.5	7491.5	253830	124014
FTSEurofirst 80						
Sep 22				5001.5		
Dec 22				4990.5		

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Commodities

ICIS pricing (London 7.30pm)			
Brent (9.00pm)			
Nov 95.00-94.98	Feb 91.31-91.28		
Dec 93.83-93.81	Mar 91.00-90.25		
Jan 92.49-92.46	Volume: 1634141		
Liffe			
Cocoa			
Sep 1765-1744	Dec 1835-1795		
Dec 1841-1839	Mar 1799-1735		
Mar 1830-1823	May 1794-1756		
Jul 1818-1800	Sep 1835-1787	Volume: 88457	
RobustaCoffee			
Sep 2288-2233	May 2218-1800		
Nov 2264-2261	Jul 2206-2170		
Jan 2255-2247	Mar 2232-2216	Volume: 11639	
White Sugar (FOB)			
Reuters May 500.30-499.30	Aug 492.40-490.30		
Sep 615.00-611.30	Oct 492.80-482.20		
Oct 1096.50-1096.00	Jan 996.75-996.25		
Nov 1058.75-1058.25	Volume: 594141		
Gas Oil			
Sep 1094.00-1092.75	Dec 1017.75-1017.00		
Oct 1096.50-1096.00	Jan 996.75-996.25		
Nov 1058.75-1058.25	Volume: 594141		



Antofagasta ordered to halt project

Environmental regulators in Chile have told Antofagasta to stop work on a desalination plant for its Los Pelambres mine, above, after a building platform collapsed (Jessica Newman writes).

Tidal waves caused one of the platforms to capsize on August 15. The FTSE 100 copper miner said there had been no significant environmental damage but severe swells had

limited recovery of materials and equipment.

The regulator ordered Antofagasta to halt marine works until the clean-up of sunk equipment carrying fuel or lubricants no longer has an environmental impact. Recovery is expected to be completed once weather conditions improve.

Antofagasta operates four copper mines in Chile and is the world's biggest producer, with 30 per cent of global output. Los Pelambres, which accounted for 45 per cent of the group's production last year and is the

company's largest mine, has come under fire from the public and the regulator, which initiated a sanction process against it for problems with waste management.

Peter Mallin-Jones, an analyst at Peel Hunt, said the pause on the project was unlikely to cause "either a significant fuel leak or a delay to the desalination plant timetable". However, he said that with the regulator flexing its muscles "Antofagasta will be keen to recover the relevant tanks and machinery to avoid negative press in Chile."

The day's biggest movers

Company	Change
FERREPO Ukraine fightback	11.3%
HG Capital Trust Upbeat half-year results	8.3%
Wizz Air Holdings Positive Heathrow numbers	6.3%
Kingfisher Investors move in on recent weakness	6.1%
Tesco Confidence in retail sector	5.5%
M&G Profit-taking	-1.2%
Chrysalis Investments Extends losses	-1.6%
Tate & Lyle Analyst downgrade	-3.3%
Network International Holdings Positive sentiment dries up	-4.8%
Serco Chief executive to retire	-6.7%

London Grain Futures			
Liffe Wheat (close £/t)			
Nov 278.5 Jan 281.00	ung Jul	ung	Mar
May 281.00	Volume: 785		ung
London Metal Exchange (Official)			
Cash 3mth		Dec 22	
Copper Gde A (\$/tonne)			
8024.0-8026.0	7943.0-7945.0		7870.0-7880.0
Lead (\$/tonne)			
1928.0-1929.0	1933.0-1934.0		1918.0-1923.0
Zinc Spec Hg Gde (\$/tonne)			
3246.0-3248.0	3227.0-3228.0		2963.0-2968.0
Alum Hg Gde (\$/tonne)			
2288.0-2288.5	2309.0-2309.5		2397.0-2402.0
Nickel (\$/tonne)			
23315.0-23325.0	23290.0-23320.0		23655.0-23705.0
Tin (\$/tonne)		15mth	
21545.0-21550.0	21350.0-21400.0		20300.0-20350.0

Gold/Precious metals (US dollars per ounce)

Because of a technical issue, the gold fix prices are from Friday.

Bullion: Open \$1717.73

Close \$1732.51-1732.65 High \$1734.78

Low \$1711.89

AM \$1726.95 PM \$1713.40

Krugerrand \$1714.00-2807.00 (£1465.01-2399.23)

Platinum \$916.00 (£782.93)

Silver \$19.95 (£17.05)

Palladium \$2278.50 (£1947.50)

European money deposits %

Currency	1mth	3mth	6mth	12mth
Dollar	0.13	0.20	0.29	0.55
Sterling	2.24	2.67	3.37	0.81
Euro	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.50

Money rates %

Base Rates Clearing Banks 1.75 ECB Refi 0.50 US Fed Fd 2.25-2.50

Halifax Mortgage Rate 4.49

Treasury Bills (Dis) Buy: 1 mth 1.840; 3 mth 2.689. Sell: 1 mth 1.750; 3 mth 2.350

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Interbank Rates	2.2380	0.0000	2.6742	3.3684	0.0000
Eurodollar Deps	2.90-3.15	3.05-3.30	3.25-3.50	3.85-4.10	4.17-4.24

Sterling spot and forward rates

Mkt Rates for	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Copenhagen	8.5241-8.5969	8.5858-8.5908	116ds	380ds
Euro	1.1561-1.1466	1.1550-1.1549	12pr	39pr
Montreal	1.5110-1.5203	1.5175-1.5177	13pr	30pr
New York	1.1600-1.1710	1.1699-1.1700	7pr	20pr
Oslo	11.436-11.524	11.519-11.523	7pr	5pr
Stockholm	12.207-12.302	12.270-12.273	185ds	558ds
Tokyo	165.39-167.02	166.61-166.62	34ds	120ds
Zurich	1.1127-1.1177	1.1136-1.1137	19ds	63ds
		Premium = pr		Discount = ds

Dollar rates

	1.4516-1.4524	Bid	Change
Australia	1.2971-1.2972	1.700	+0.01
Canada	1.3403-1.3413	1.519	+0.01
Denmark	0.9872-0.9872	8.592	+0.02
Euro	7.8485-7.8487	1.155	
Hong Kong	142.41-142.41	9.187	+0.10
Japan	4.4954-4.5005	458.468	+1.01
Malaysia	9.8446-9.8502	3.938	-0.01
Norway	1.3954-1.3956	1737.288	+197.21
Singapore	10.487-10.490	166.657	+1.67
Sweden	0.9519-0.9519	1.903	+0.01
Switzerland		11.512	+0.02

Other Sterling

	166.46-166.47	Bid	Change
Argentina peso	1.6984-1.6986	7.018	+0.73
Australia dollar	0.4375-0.4445	20.018	+0.01
Bahrain dinar	5.9828-5.9863	12.268	-0.02
Brazil real	1.1549-1.1551	1.114	
Euro	9.1818-9.1828	21.333	+0.21
Hong Kong dollar	92.842-92.858	1.171	+0.01
India rupee	17380-17388		
Indonesia rupiah	0.3594-0.3617		
Kuwait dinar KD	5.2586-5.2645		
Malaysia ringgit	1.9018-1.9022		
New Zealand dollar	1.6325-1.6328		
Singapore dollar	20.008-20.018		
S Africa rand	U A E dirham		
	4.2953-4.2976		

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Tate & Lyle misses out on sweet day for FTSE 100

Jessica Newman Market report

Mounting inflationary pressures in Europe are putting Tate & Lyle in a sticky situation, analysts have warned. Jefferies, the American investment bank, has flagged that input costs could soar because the company is more exposed to rising cost pressures in Europe since selling a controlling stake in its commercial sweeteners business for \$1.4 billion this year. Downgrading their recommendation from "buy" to "hold," analysts think that the company will need to raise prices by more than 20 per cent in Europe for next year's contracts.

"Tate & Lyle has demonstrated impressive pricing power," Martin Deboo, an analyst at Jefferies, said. "But there are limits to what customers will bear."

While the company has been bullish about inflationary pressures not blowing business off course as it successfully negotiated contracts to offset price increases, Deboo and his team see energy costs as a big risk in the third quarter and by the fourth quarter "all bets are off" as annual contracts will be renegotiated.

The downgrade spooked investors as Tate's shares fell 25.5p, or 3.3 per cent, to a three-month low of 735.5p. London's wider markets, however, started the week on the front foot as investors shrugged off disappointing economic data. The FTSE 100 gained 121.96 points, or 1.7 per cent, to 7,473.03, propped up by retailers and miners. Kingfisher, owner of B&Q, led the charge, rising 14.4p, or 6.1 per cent, to 257p; Sainsbury gained 10.4p, or 5.3 per cent, to 213.5p; Tesco picked up 13.4p, or 5.5 per cent, to 253p and JD Sports gained 5.4p, or 4.3 per cent, to 131.4p. Miners were also in high

CONSUMER GOODS

Victoria carpets hedge funds

Hedge funds that bet against Victoria, the carpet maker, are feeling the squeeze after its shares shot up more than 20 per cent yesterday.

The shares were trading at about 350p a week ago but last night they closed up 20.4 per cent, or 98p, at 578p.

Some in the City believe the rally is being driven by a short squeeze as sellers rush to cover bearish bets after Victoria issued a positive trading update on Friday.

Short-sellers have piled into Victoria

after Iceberg, an activist investor, issued a critical report that questioned the transparency and structure of several of its acquisitions. Iceberg said they raised "major concerns about the integrity of Victoria's

demand, as metal prices pushed higher thanks to a weaker dollar and concerns over supply. This gave a lift to Anglo American, up 64p, or 2.2 per cent, to £29.90, while Glencore, the Swiss-based mining and commodities group, rose 11p, or 2.2 per cent, to 499.4p, or 3.3 per cent, to 752.5p. Ferrexpo was the star performer in the mid-cap index after reports that Russian forces had suffered their worst defeat since March boosted sentiment in the Ukrainian iron ore producer. The shares closed up 17.5p, or 11.3 per cent, to 173.5p.

On the flip side, Serco shares fell 12.4p, or 6.8 per cent, to 168p after the outsourcer said that Rupert Soames, its chief executive, would step down at the end of the year.

Elsewhere, Kape Technologies, an AIM-listed maker of cybersecurity software saw its shares jump after quadrupling half-year profits. The company, based in the Isle of Man, posted pre-tax profits of \$46.2 million in the six months to the end of June, compared with £10 million a year ago, while revenues more than tripled to \$302.4 million. The shares settled 32p, or 12.3 per cent, higher at 292p.

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
ALLIANZ GLOBAL INVESTORS				
Inv Serv: 020 7065 1400 Helpline: 0800 317 573				
Gilt Yield %@ 206.01	...	+0.27	...	...
Strategic Bond Fund %@ 163.67	...	-0.27	0.13	
UK Corp Bond C %@ 104.79	...	-0.78	3.87	
UK Eqty C %@ 6317.26	...	-14.91	3.28	
UK Eqty A %@ 315.01	...	+3.71	...	
UK Gwth A %@ 7822.24	...	+9.05	...	
UK Index A Inc %@ 1423.81	...	-5.83	3.01	
UK Mid Cap A %@ 4654.61	...	-11.35	0.07	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
ARTEMIS FUND MGRS LTD				
0800 092 2051				
Authorised Inv Funds				
Capital R Acc %@ 2115.18	...	+19.61	...	
Euro Opps R Acc %@ 91.26	...	-0.48	...	
Euro Opps R Inc %@ 85.36	...	-0.46	...	
European Growth R Acc %@ 355.50	...	+4.53	2.32	
Global Energy R Acc %@ 41.91	...	-0.56	1.20	
Global Growth R Acc %@ 346.83	...	+1.67	...	
Global Income R Acc %@ 161.40	...	+1.42	4.10	
Global Income R Inc %@ 102.71	...	+0.90	4.25	
Global Select R Acc %@ 152.74	...	+0.63	...	
High Income R Inc %@ 62.91	...	+0.28	5.59	
Income R Acc %@ 492.91	...	+5.28	...	
Income R Inc %@ 220.30	...	+2.36	...	
Monthly Dist R Inc %@ 66.98	...	+0.37	4.45	
Strategic Assets R Acc %@ 81.19	...	-0.60	...	
Strategic Bond R Acc %@ 695.41	...	+0.15	2.55	
Strategic Bond R M Inc %@ 51.12	...	+0.09	2.59	
Strategic Bond R Q Acc %@ 95.24	...	+0.15	2.67	
Strategic Bond R Q Inc %@ 50.89	...	+0.09	2.70	
UK Growth R Acc %@ 653.45	...	+9.62	1.25	
UK Smaller Cos R Acc %@ 1851.24	...	+20.37	0.88	
UK Special Sits R Acc %@ 649.59	...	+8.23	1.12	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
AXA FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Dling: 0845 602 1952 Priv Clients: 0845 777 5511				
Equity Inc %@ 572.40	...	-2.70	...	
Gilt Acc %@ 201.30	211.80	+0.10	1.08	
Gilt Inc %@ 74.35	78.24	-0.39	1.09	
Health Acc %@ 2998.00	...	-19.00	...	
Jap Smr Co A @ 62.56	66.09	-0.19	0.30	
Managed A @ 138.30	...	...	...
Monthly Inc Linc %@ 239.40	...	+1.30	4.55	
UK Growth Inc %@ 221.40	...	+3.20	0.66	
UK Select Opps Inc %@ 1936.00	...	+21.00	0.71	
UK Smr Cos Inc %@ 272.20	...	+1.70	...	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
AXA FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Admin & Enq 0117 989 0808				
AXA Trusts				
Gen Acc %@ 2101.00	...	+6.00	2.64	
Gen Inc %@ 1079.00	...	-2.00	2.70	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
UK/Global Investment Companies				
Euro Acc A %@ 234.70	
Extra Inc Inc B %@ 86.74	...	+0.24	1.16	
Global Gwth Eq Acc %@ 288.10	...	+4.10	0.52	
Japan Acc C %@ 162.30	...	+2.20	1.51	
Pac Gwth Acc C %@ 479.80	...	-17.60	2.30	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
08457 46 46 46				
European Gwth %@ 191.80	...	+7.60	...	
Sus Leaders %@ 762.80	...	+7.70	1.05	
UK Growth %@ 609.30	...	+18.70	2.10	
UK Income %@ 209.30	...	+4.70	5.16	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
CLOSE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0870 606 6402				
Beacon Inv %@ 84.88	...	+0.35	0.01	
Dealing: 020 7426 6232				
Winchester %@ 3615.76	...	+2.70	0.36	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
EDENTREE INV MGMT LTD				
0800 358 3010				
Resp & Sust Sterling Bond %@ 87.44	...	+0.06	3.73	
Resp & Sust Eur Eq %@ 290.00	...	+4.30	...	
Resp & Sust Gbl Eq %@ 326.00	...	+4.10	0.08	
Resp & Sust Mdg Income %@ 123.50	...	+1.10	4.83	
Resp & Sust UK Eq %@ 216.00	...	+3.50	0.99	
Resp & Sust UK Equity Opps %@ 264.80	...	+2.80	0.91	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
F & C FUND MANAGEMENT LTD (OEICs)				
Enqs: 0870 601 6183 Dealing: 0870 601 6083				
Share Class 1 - Retail				
Corporate Bd %@ 49.95	...	+0.07	1.58	
Emerging Mkts %@ 125.20	...	+0.10	...	
Euro Gwth & Inc C %@ 1136.00	...	+12.00	...	
Extra Inc Bond %@ 43.78	...	+0.06	1.78	
FTSE All-Strk Track %@ 421.10	...	+4.00	...	
Global Gwth SCL %@ 314.40	...	+0.50	...	
High Inc Trst %@ 11.51	12.14	+0.01	5.61	
Max Inc Bond %@ 43.29	...	+0.22	2.79	
Multi Man Caut %@ 70.41	3.18	
Multi Man Dist %@ 60.44	3.37	
North Amer %@ 869.60	...	+8.50	...	
Pacific Gwth %@ 503.90	...	-1.90	...	
Strategic Bd %@ 196.90	...	+0.30	1.17	
UK Equity %@ 3329.00	...	+41.00	...	
UK Gwth & Inc Acc %@ 655.50	...	+12.34	3.25	
UK Gwth & Inc Dist %@ 234.70	
UK Smaller Cos %@ 1007.00	...	+15.30	...	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
INVESTEC FUND MGRS				
Broker Support and Dealing: 020 7597 1900				
OEIC Series I, II, III, & IV				
American A Inc %@ 672.47	...	-0.15	...	
Global Spec Sits %@ 5599.00	...	+8.00	...	
Global Gwth %@ 3054.00	...	+2.00	...	
International %@ 149.50	...	+0.20	0.08	
Japan %@ 530.50	...	-0.04	...	
Moneybld Bal %@ 44.78	...	+0.24	3.61	
Moneybld Glob %@ 327.60	327.60	-0.10	0.21	
Moneybld Gwth %@ 76.12	...	-0.95	...	
Moneybld Inc %@ 29.99	...	+0.02	...	
Moneybld UK Ind %@ 124.87	...	+1.19	...	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld
FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL				
Private Cnts 0800 414161 Broker Digs 0800 414181				
Amer Spec Sits %@ 2425.00	...	-8.00	...	
American A %@ 5337.00	...	+13.00	...	
Euro Opps %@ 532.10	...	+5.20	...	
European %@ 3128.00	...	+24.00	...	
Extra Income %@ 23.15	...	+0.06	4.90	
Glob Spec Sits %@ 5599.00	...	+8.00	...	
Global Gwth %@ 3054.00	...	+2.00	...	
International %@ 149.50	...	+0.20	0.08	
Japan %@ 530.50	...	-0.04	...	
Moneybld Bal %@ 44.78	...	+0.24	3.61	
Moneybld Glob %@ 327.60	327.60	-0.10	0.21	
Moneybld Gwth %@ 76.				

Business Equity prices

Dividend yields Please note dividend yields are supplied by Morningstar. The yield is the sum of a company's trailing 12-month dividend payments divided by the last month's ending share price

12 month high and low Please note the 12 month high and low figures for shares supplied by Morningstar are based on intra-day figures, not closing prices.

12 month High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld%	P/E
High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld%	P/E

Automobiles & parts

1963½ 172½ Aston Martin Lag 172½ - 310 ... -10

Banking & finance

263½ 141½ abrdn‡ 154½ + 3½ 9.4 3.3

3526 172½ Admiral‡ 2271 + 70 6.6 11.5

88½ 49 ADVFNT‡ 56½ - 1 2.6 9.8

426½ 246½ AJ Bell 283½ + 12 2.5 26.6

2903½ 216½ Aon Corp 2505½ + 98½ 0.5 61.1

32½ 21½ Appreciate Group‡ 24½ + 1½ 4.0 6.6

1030 810 Arbutnhol Bkg‡ 845 - 2½ 1.8 18.6

20 12 Argo Group‡ 12 5.5

370½ 192 Ashmore Gp 231½ + 4½ 7.3 7.8

1675½ 1231½ Aus New Z 1372½ + 18½ 5.9 10.7

602½ 382½ Aviva‡ 444½ + 1½ 4.8 58.5

290½ 193½ Banco Santander 231 + 11½ 2.7 5.5

2205 984 Bank of Georgia 2205 + 80 ... 6.8

217 140½ Barclays‡ 173½ + 5 1.7 4.2

... Blue Star Capital‡ ½ 3.9

359 277 BR Marsh&Ptns‡ 293 + 6 0.8 8.0

42 100½ Bravetech Inv‡ 100% - ½ 0.2

517 266 Brewin Dolphin 513 ... 2.8 28.0

569 281 Bridgepoint‡ 281½ + 22½ 7.0 17.5

90 45 Cenkos Secs‡ 45 - 1½ 7.7 9.1

325 256½ Chesnara‡ 321 + 10 6.9 17.8

76 31 City of Lon Gp‡ 51½ -3.5

550 395 City Lon Inv Gp 405 ... 8.1 9.5

1575 987 Close Bros 1061 + 29 5.6 7.9

317 214½ CMK Markets 228½ - 1 13.4 6.9

798½ 436½ Commerzbk 674 + 21% ... 34.5

1253½ 665 Deutsche Bk 79½ + 24½ ... 9.3

312½ 193½ Direct Line Ins 216½ + 4 10.3 8.9

59½ 57 Downing ONE VCT 57 ... 4.3 7.7

12 month High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld%	P/E
High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld%	P/E

7½ ½ Drum‡

191½ 97½ EFG-Hermes Hldg 97½ - 4½ ... 6.2

415 151½ EPE Special Opps‡ 151½ + 4 ... 8.4

93½ 65½ FBD 89½ 3.9

90 67½ Fiske‡ 69 12.2

83½ 63 Frenkel Topping‡ 65 + 2 2.0 37.7

725 458½ Georgia Capital 709 + 21 ... 1.9

1005 765 Gresham House‡ 792 - 3 0.7 31.7

470 260 H&T Group‡ 470 18.50

57 33½ Hansard Global 33½ - 1½ 13.2 11.5

1598 762½ Hargreaves L 882½ + 26 4.3 15.7

195 143½ Helios Under‡ 143½ 2.0

567½ 359½ HSBC‡ 536 + 11 3.0 11.7

857½ 648 IG Group 799 + 5½ 5.4 8.1

1482 550 Impax‡ 633 + 36 1.6 20.8

2379 126½ Intermed Cap 1292½ + 9 4.3 7.4

155½ 73 IPF‡ 93% - 1½ 2.3 5.2

173½ 155½ Intl Public Ptnshp 167 - 1 4.4 21.4

536½ 275½ Investec 414% + 9½ 3.1 10.4

320 281 Investment Co 285 - 5 0.3 10.2

155½ 66½ IP Group‡ 73% + 3½ 1.3 2.7

302½ 151 Jarvis Securities‡ 185 + 3 7.3 13.3

105 99 JPM Elect Mg C 102 ... 0.2 -0.9

1115½ 896½ JPM Elect Mg G 965 ... 1.7 -4.2

111 92 JPM Elect Mg I 97½ + 1½ 4.7 -3.6

138 286½ JPM Em Mkts 108 + 1½ 1.1 -13.1

589 295½ JPM Chinese 341 + 3 5.9 -12.4

952 610½ JPM Claverhs 696 + 18 4.6 -1.9

105 99 JPM Elect Mg C 102 ... 0.2 -0.9

475 386 JPM GG&I 437 + 4 3.9 4.3

865 691½ JPM Indian 848 + 4 ... -20.8

568½ 301 JPM Jap Sml Co 334 - 2 4.8 -7.7

732 408½ JPM Japan‡ 474 + 9 1.0 -7.4

1550 82½ JPM Mid Cap 906 + 24 3.0 -13.8

109 93 JPM Multi-Ass Grw & Inc95 - ½ 4.2 -3.9

894 55½ JPM Russian 86½ ... 106.4 84.7

468 251 JPM Smr Co 276 + 7 1.8 -15.0

364 174 Keystone IT 217 + 4 2.7 -14.3

829 700 Law Debenture 762 + 26 4.0 -3.0

142½ 110 Lowland 123 + 3½ 4.8 -7.7

250 167½ Majeddo 179½ + 2½ 4.8 -2.5

437 276 M Currie Port 323 + 3 1.3 -1.5

128½ 98 Marwyn Val In 103½ ... 5.3 -39.0

287½ 173½ Mercantile IT 194 + 6 3.1 -1.0

591 485 Merchants 561 + 11 5.1 0.8

870 675 Mid Wynd 723 + 4 0.9 -1.9

1460 875 Monks Inv Tst 1064 + 12 0.2 -9.6

226½ 116½ Montanaro Eur Sml 127 + 2½ 0.6 -1.15

948½ 738 Murray Income Trust 836 + 18 4.1 -8.8

1326 1038 Murray Int 1276 + 36 4.3 -8.1

98½ 72½ Nb Global Floating 78 + 1½ 6.0 -8.6

376 286½ Pacific Assets 355 ... 0.4 -11.6

234½ 239 Pantheon Int 266 + 1 ... -43.5

3125 2295 Pershing Sq 2855 - 20 0.9 -32.4

511½ 470½ Personal Assets 499½ + ½ 1.4 0.8

468 251 Pmtr Smr Co 276 + 7 1.8 -15.0

364 174 Keystone IT 217 + 4 2.7 -14.3

829 700 Law Debenture 762 + 26 4.0 -3.0

105 90 Life Science Reit‡ 90½ - ½

25 12 Lon & Assoc 19½ - ½ -2.6

27 16½ Time Finance‡ 16½ 10.2

65 37 Macau Prop Op 57 + ½ -7.3

1415 97½ Volvere‡ 980

55½ 34½ WH Ireland‡ 34½ 19.3

34 28½ Waller Crips Grp 30 ... 2.5 85.7

5140½ 325½ Wells Fargo 3880½ + 7½ 14 10.6

1538½ 112½ Westpac 1263 + 12% 3.7 17.1

31½ 23½ Worsley Investors Ltd 24½ - 1½ ... 75.9

4122½ 338½ Zurich Fincl 38331 + 20½ 4.2 14.9

12 month High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld%	P/E
High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld%	P/E

8582 6370 Lond Stk Ex Gp‡	8098	94	1.0	8.28	2.3	15.0
227½ 178½ M&G‡	201½	2½	9.0	63.0	19	14.7
274½ 178½ Man	257½	1	3.2	10.3	422½	3.5 57.9
9½ 7½ Manx Fin‡	8½	...	2.0	4.1	30.4	157½ 110 Caledonian Tst‡
4½ 1½ Marechale Cap‡	2½	...	1.2	1.2	3½ 116 Cap & Count Prop‡	
1554 1256½ Marsh McLn	14262½	16½	1.3	29.7	3½ 116 Cap & Regnl	
892½ 640 Mattioli Woods‡	640	...	3.2	...	59½ 54 Cap & Regnl	
27½ 13½ Metal Tiger‡	17½	...	6.8	...	250 285 Cardiff Prop	
133 70½ Metro Bank	91	+	2	...	27.7	240 1875 Clarke T‡
1970½ 1520½ Nat Aust Bk	1764½	8½	2.7	17.5	143 185 Cardif Prop	
283½ 207½ NWG‡	269½	8½	3.9	10.6	144 78 Sirius Real Estate	
369 230 Numis‡	243	-	4	4.9	4.9	161½ 128½ Smart (J)
59½ 54 Cap & Regnl	59½	+	1½	-0.5	146 100 Taylor Wimpey	
66½ 54 Cap & Regnl	59½	+	1½	-0.5	178 104 Taylor Wimpey	
250 285 Cardiff Prop	250	...	0.7	27.7	178½ 120 Town Centre	
40 20½ Carecapital‡	24	-	1	...	180 80 Travis Perkins	
183 118½ Clarke T‡	143	+	6	30.10	183 101 Travis Perkins	
240 174½ CLS Hdgs‡	178½	+	4½	4.2	6.1	183 111 Tritax Eurobox
530 225½ Countryside Prop	261	+	3½	...	184 111 Tritax Eurobox	
444½ 211 Tyman	224½	+	5½	3.5	8.8	120 100 UNITE GRP
1207 99½ UNITE GRP	1070	+	19	18.		

12 month High Low Company				Price (p) +/- Yld% P/E				12 month High Low Company				Price (p) +/- Yld% P/E				12 month High Low Company				Price (p) +/- Yld% P/E				12 month High Low Company				Price (p) +/- Yld% P/E			
84½ 30½ IXICO◆	39	...	12.5					427½ 31½ Bloomsbury Pub	398	-	6½ 2.2	16.4				43 21½ Condor Gld◆	28½ +	2½	...		1½ ½ Scirocco Energy◆	½		872 594 Renew Hldgs◆	672	+	7	19 16.6	
501½ 286½ Mediclinic Int	494½ +	½	30.9					11½ 4½ Bonhill Group◆	5½ +	½	...		2 ½ Corcel◆	½	...	-0.4	77 28½ Serabi Gold◆	28½ -	½	...	3.9	851 534 Renewi	738	+	8	15.6					
8½ 1½ N4 Pharma◆	1½	...	-1.8					88 42½ Catalyst Media◆	87½	...	...		8058½ 49½ DRD Gold	49½ +	1½	7.6	5.8	450 169½ Serica Energy◆	390	...	0.9		636½ 444½ Rentokil Itl◆	554½ +	2½	13	39.3		
88.42 72.84 Novartis	CHF 80.14 +	0.78	3.4 9.1					1 ½ Catenea◆	½	...	-0.5		1½ ½ ECR Minerals◆	½	...	-4.8	14½ 6½ Shanta Gold◆	9½ +	½	1.0	5.8	518 403 Restore◆	426	+	1	0.5 50.7					
58½ 2½ Omega Diags◆	2½	...	-1.0					1146 269 Daily Mail◆	270	-	2½	8.9	10.3			28½ 10½ Edenvale Energy◆	11	...	-0.7		2440 141½ Shell◆	232½ +	2½	2.6	12.2	490 331½ Ricardo	444	+	4½	15 39.6	
22½ 9 Ovico Bio◆	9½	...	-2.7					195 100 DCD Media◆	100	-	30	...	5.0			11½ 1 Empyrean Energy◆	1½	...	-8.2		2½ ½ Sound Energy◆	1½	9.2	862 448 Robert Walters◆	496	+	1	3.3 11.3	
1634 415 Oxford Biomedica	455 +	4	20.4					1466 829 Euromoney In Inv	1450	...	0.7	...		2100 1510 Endeavour Mining◆	1777 +	17	2.7	26.4	20 10 Roebeck Food Grp◆	13	...	...	1.9	213 92 RPS Group	212	+	2	0.1 99.0	
7 2½ Physionics◆	2½	...	-9.4					3844 1486 Future	1722 +	74	...	29.6		36½ 17 EnQuest	31½ +	½	1.9		1 ½ Thor Mining◆	½	...	-4.0		1255 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3			
5½ 3½ Proteome Scies◆	4½	...	...					3844 1486 Future	1722 +	74	...	29.6		35½ 4½ Eurasia Mining◆	5½ +	½	...		5149½ 3165½ Total Eng SE	4466½ +	16½	5.0	10.2	47½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...	...
6808 5391 Reckitt Benck	6628 +	60	2.6	...				1960 930 GlobalData◆	1050	...	1.6	51.9		3½ 1 Europa Oil&Gas◆	2½	...	-25.0		½ ½ Tower Resources◆	½	...	-4.6		520 256½ Micro Focus Intl	520	...	3.4	-5.5			
164½ 31½ RUA Life Sciences◆	46	...	-4.4					121½ 46½ Hyve Group	66½ +	½	...			382½ 107 Ferrexpo	173½ +	17½	8.2	1.3	82½ 46 MTI Wireless◆	55 +	2	3.3	18.3	348 117½ Sareum Hldgs◆	162½ +	2½	...				
1369 1008 Smith & Neph	1105 +	½	2.4	25.0				550 46½ IG Design Grp◆	91	-	3	9.5	13.3		986½ 62½ Fresnillo◆	752½ +	23½	3.2	17.8	51½ 17 Nanoco Gp	51½ -	1½	...		254½ 206 Spire Hcare	240½ +	2½	...			
212½ 18½ Synairgen◆	20½ -	1	-0.9					624 464½ Informa	570	+	9½	...			6½ 63 G3 Exploration◆	28	...	-2.6		6½ ½ Vast Res◆	½	...	-0.1		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3		
½ ½ Tissue Regenix◆	½	...	-6.8					125½ 61½ ITV	66½ +	2	...	7.1		41½ 21 Galantas Gold◆	32½	...	-5.5		67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...	-2.8	212½ 18½ Synairgen◆	20½ -	1	-0.9		
47½ 30½ Totally◆	37	-	1	13	58.7			12½ 7½ Jaywing◆	7½	...	...			8½ 3½ GCM Resources◆	7 +	½	-5.8		67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...		212½ 18½ Synairgen◆	20½ -	1	-0.9	
615 292 Tristel◆	335 +	10	1.9	69.0				12½ 3 Live Company Gp◆	4	...	-0.8			72½ 33½ Gem Diamonds	35½ +	½	5.2	3.7	67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...		55½ 10½ ValiRx◆	20 +	½	...		
55½ 10½ ValiRx◆	20 +	½	...					59 34 Merit Grp◆	34	...	...			37 18½ Getech◆	19½	...	-4.6		67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3
74 45 Mirada◆	45	...	-1.9					59 34 Merit Grp◆	34	...	...			541½ 312 Glencore◆	499½ +	10½	1.7	18.2	67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3
79½ 46 Mission Group◆	53½ +	½	4.3	9.0				7½ ½ Global Petrol◆	½	...	-4.2			15½ 2½ Westmount Eng◆	3 +	...	-0.6		67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	
246½ 167 Moneysupermarket	195½ +	3½	6.0	19.9				1266½ 72½ Gold Fields	729½ +	12½	3.5	11.2		7½ ½ W Resources◆	2½	...	-0.3		67½ 19½ RTC Group◆	20½	...	...		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	
212½ 131½ News Corp A	1506½ +	13½	0.9	24.5				10½ 6½ Goldplat◆	10 +	½	...	7.6		8½ ½ Woodbois◆	3½ +	½	...	14.9	40½ 29½ Smurfit Kappa	3015 +	118	3.2	13.7	59 34 Merit Grp◆	53½ +	½	4.3	9.0			
586½ 383½ Bayer DM50	4681½ +	105½	3.5	54.6				14 5½ Goldstone Res◆	7½	...	...			7½ 4½ Zephyr Energy◆	4½	...	-6.1		40½ 29½ Smurfit Kappa	3015 +	118	3.2	13.7	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	
432 150 Biome Tech◆	170 +	10	...	-5.6				213½ 7½ Greatful Gld◆	9 +	½	...			1060 770 Vp	803 +	1	3.1	19.7	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3			
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7½ 6 Camb Gbl Timber◆	6½	...	-9.0					310 16½ Gulf Keystone	225	-	10	3.7	14.0			125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3						
81½ 57 Coats Grp	59½ +	1	2.3	13.3				530 29½ Harbour Energy◆	480	-	½	...	56.0			125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3						
10410 5908 Croda◆	7028 +	162	1.3	30.6				29½ 9½ Harland & Wolff Gp◆	9½	...	...	0.7		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3						
1575 835 Cropper (James)◆	1035	...	31.5					403 70½ Reach◆	84½ +	8½	8.2	9.43		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3								
157½ 96½ Elementis	113½ +	4	...					213½ 5½ REACT Grp◆	½	...	-13.9			125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3								
40½ 18 Hardice◆	18	-	1	-3.4				2449 2071 Relx	2310	+	19	2.0	30.4			125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3						
2856 1721 Johnson Math	2055 +	47	3.4	25.9				800½ 531 Rightmove	637½ +	7½	0.7	36.1		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3								
2011 1309 Mondi◆	1512½ +	45	3.3	11.5				155 92½ SpaceandPeople◆	97½	...	...			125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3						
102½ 75 Robinson◆	80	...	6.8					377½ 249 STV Group	291	-	6	3.3	7.1			125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3						
461½ 260½ Smith (DS)	288½ +	9	4.2	16.3				467 215 System1 Group◆	215	...	-10.2			328½ 274½ 21st Cent Fox Inc A	2968½ +	19½	1.1	16.2		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3		
627½ 450½ Swire Pacific	607½ +	12	2.6	...				328½ 274½ 21st Cent Fox Inc A	2968½ +	19½	1.1	16.2		125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3	125½ 812 RS Group	1118	+	19	2.2 28.3								

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Thu 4 Limassol, Cyprus (depart late pm)

Sat 6 Cairo (from Alexandria), Egypt (depart late night)

Tue 9 Catania, Sicily, Italy (depart early pm)

Fri 12 Gibraltar (depart early pm)

Tue 16 Arrive in London Tilbury

Dates not mentioned are spent relaxing at sea



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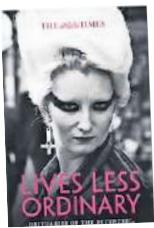
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Obituaries

Tony Hunt

Structural engineer who was a 'go to' man for Norman Foster and Richard Rogers and became a key figure on the Eden Project

As a fresh-faced teenager in 1951, Tony Hunt tendered his ticket at the entrance to the Festival of Britain on London's South Bank and left several hours later a changed young man. The civil engineering student was captivated by the futurist structures, including the Dome of Discovery and the Skylon.

Until then he had been regretting his early choice of career, but suddenly realised that "engineering was wonderful". He set out on a course that would lead to the structural engineering of buildings that would change the face of British architecture, ending with the Eden Project.

To begin with Hunt found to his dismay that "architects don't want to have a dialogue with the engineer at all". Then in the early Sixties he met Norman Foster and Richard Rogers. The two young architects wanted to "push the envelope" as much as Hunt did and to work closely with an engineer from the initial concept and drawing board.

Hunt, who was admired by architects for the beauty of his conceptual drawings, was not afraid to extemporise his ideas with rapid sketches during long meetings at which he would ask endless questions while puffing away on a cigarette. It also helped that the loquacious Hunt was enormous fun, belying the slightly strait-laced image of engineers

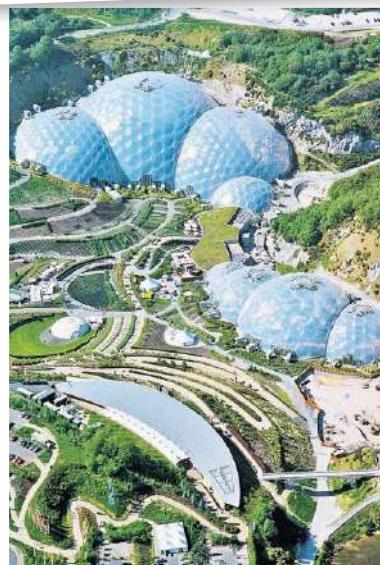
At meetings he would ask endless questions while puffing a cigarette

in those days as he partied hard with his architect associates and outdid them with his trendy, slightly bohemian, attire.

"One of the things I learnt was pushing things to the limit structurally. Don't sit down with a pen or pencil and work out the bending moment when you haven't even explored the different concepts that a structure might take and the materials you might use," said Hunt, explaining the philosophy that led to him becoming one of the leading structural engineers of his day along with Ted Happold and Peter Rice.

Foster and his wife at the time, Wendy Cheesman, along with Rogers and his then wife Su Brumwell had formed the practice Team 4 and their discussions with Hunt about new structures and materials found expression in a commission for an electrical parts factory in Swindon. The Reliance Controls building, completed in 1966, would be acknowledged as the first in the British high-tech movement that would revolutionise architecture with its innovative use of lightweight materials (inspired by the burgeoning space age) and elegant, repetitive structures made of factory-produced prefabricated components. Hunt, who had a passion for designing furniture, believed that you could engineer buildings like an industrial designer of mass-produced objects.

"The Reliance Controls building was designed for repetition in future phases



Top left: Tony Hunt (third left) in the Seventies makes his point to Buckminster Fuller, Michael Hopkins, John Walker, Norman Foster and James Meller. Bottom left, he helped to persuade sceptics of the Eden Project that it could be built



TIM STREET PORTER

and was incredibly simple with the roof and wall cladding, both in profile metal sheet, designed as spanning structures," he recalled. "It was difficult even at this early stage of my practice to know who designed what. It was a complete synthesis of architecture."

The building symbolised a growing movement of British tech and light manufacturing to replace heavy industry. Hunt would later work with Rogers on the Inmos building in Portsmouth to house the UK government-backed microchip venture, another minimalist box with huge spans that has outlived its design life by some 20 years.

With Foster he challenged the prevailing orthodoxy of postwar "concrete box" office buildings with the design of the headquarters for the insurance company Willis Faber & Dumas in Ipswich. Now grade I listed, the curvaceous three-story structure clad in dark glass looks as though it has been oozed into the tight site like a teardrop.

Hunt would reconvene with Foster to engineer the Sainsbury's Centre for Visual Arts at the University of East Anglia, completed in 1978. He devised the slightly curved, giant lattice steel girder that enables column-free spaces within to house the art collection that Sir Robert Sainsbury donated to the university. The sleek, beautifully detailed glass-fronted building is redolent of an aircraft hangar — both Hunt and Foster loved planes — and was a personal favourite of the engineer's.

"Tony's enthusiasm was boundless and contagious," said Foster, with whom Hunt remained close and shared a passion for all things mechanical.

In later years Hunt did more infrastructure projects, working with Nicholas Grimshaw on Waterloo International station (1994), during which he was inspired by illustrations in *Gray's Anatomy* to help to design the ultra-lightweight skeletal structure that articulates the sloping roof and allows natural light to stream on to the platforms. He was also involved in the

He worked with Terence Conran but there was a clash of personalities

structural design of the V-shaped giant steel columns and undulating bamboo roof of Rogers' award-winning terminal at Barajas airport in Madrid.

Hunt's final significant job was the Eden Project, the world's largest set of geodesic domes creating tropical environments for exotic plant species at a former china clay pit in Bodelva, Cornwall. Working with Grimshaw again, Hunt's enthusiasm helped to overcome scepticism about whether it was possible to create a single-span greenhouse so large that the Leaning Tower of Pisa could fit underneath it. The ultra-lightweight steel spans of the largest dome are 110m across and 50m high. Hunt

helped to solve the problem of structural stability with the use of transparent ETFE (ethyltetrafluoroethylene) foil — a Teflon-based, thin, tough plastic sheet as a glazing material. Glass would have been too heavy a load on the superstructure and foundations and would not let through ultraviolet light, essential for the flora inside.

A hugely popular tourist attraction, the Eden Project was a fitting apotheosis to Hunt's career of shape shifting.

Anthony James Hunt was born in Streatham Hill, south London, in 1932, the eldest child of James Hunt, a solicitor's clerk, and Joan (née Cassidy). The family finally settled in Farnborough, Hampshire. Hunt was educated at Salesian College near by, where he became rather renowned for designing remote-controlled model aircraft. He left at 15 to start an apprenticeship with Wheeler & Jupp, a civil engineering firm in the capital, and studied at Westminster Technical College to get qualifications.

After attending the Festival of Britain, he sought out the engineer of the Skylon, Felix Samuely, whom he described as "a man who understood architects and worked alongside them as a creative designer — a very unusual type of engineer in the 1950s". He was given a job. At FJ Samuely & Partners he worked on Eero Saarinen's imposing American embassy in Grosvenor Square and the Halley Bay research station in Antarctica for the British Antarctic Survey.

In his spare time he designed and made his own furniture and after winning an Italian furniture design competition in 1959, he went to work for Terence Conran as a furniture and exhibition designer. There were fewer than five employees at that stage and Hunt might have flourished at the dawn of Conran's revolution in making mid-century design affordable to the masses. The problem was that their personalities clashed and Hunt left after two years. In later years he would playfully refer to his former employer as "Tear-ass".

The experience convinced him of the need to set up what became Anthony Hunt Associates, and the first big project that enabled him to pay his staff was the municipal housing project Alexandra Road in Camden, north London, working with the architect Neave Brown on the sloping cast concrete structural elements. The brutalist building is one of the few postwar housing schemes to be grade II* listed.

Hunt's first marriage in 1957 was to Patricia Daniels, who worked at the Arts Council and encouraged his interest in painting and sculpture. The marriage ended in divorce in 1972. He remarried Patricia in 1975 but they divorced in 1982. He is survived by their son, Julian, a designer working on listed buildings, and their daughter, Polly, who runs a textiles business. His third marriage in 1985 to Diana Collett ended in divorce in 2007. He is survived by his fourth wife Hélène Moore (née Etchats).

Hunt's interests were beautifully designed and engineered objects, fast cars, sailing and women. A charming, stylish and humorous character who was obsessively tidy, he pursued all these passions with alacrity.

For a man at the fulcrum of engineering high-tech modernism, Hunt demonstrated his own lack of dogmatism by basing his operation from the mid-Seventies in the mid-16th century grade II listed Colin Manor in rural Gloucestershire, where he lived and accommodated his 40-strong office.

He continued to teach structural engineering at the Royal College of Art and wrote *Structures Notebook* as a textbook. Among his students was James Dyson, who would go on to become one of Britain's most successful manufacturing entrepreneurs. "Tony did more than anyone to turn me on to engineering and to make the connection between design, engineering, art and science. His teaching, at the Royal College of Art, of Buckminster Fuller opened my eyes as to what was structurally possible and to just how exciting pure structure and design engineering could be. I could see structural engineering would come to dominate architecture — it felt pioneering."

Hunt would later help to design the headquarters for Dyson's electrical goods manufacturing company in Malmesbury, Wiltshire, completed in 1998. Dyson was not surprised that Hunt dedicated much of his retirement thereafter to painting. "It speaks volumes about his view of engineering as being art."

Tony Hunt, engineer, was born on July 22, 1932. He died on August 16, 2022, aged 90

Register

Register

Tom Weiskopf

Golfer who notably won the 1973 Open at Troon and was long admired for his talent but lamented for his lack of discipline

Sheltering under an umbrella as a pipe band entertained the crowd gathered at the 18th hole to hail his victory, Tom Weiskopf raised aloft the famous Claret Jug, the trophy that was his reward for winning the 1973 Open golf championship.

It was a bittersweet moment for the erratic American. Long admired for his talent and lamented for his lack of discipline, he found new determination after the death of his father earlier in the year. "I didn't put out my best in front of him, and doggone it, as long as I'm playing this game I'm going to do my best," Weiskopf said. "I really wanted to win this tournament more than any other major tournament I ever played in."

At a sudden Troon he scored a 12-under-par total of 276 over four rounds, equaling the Open Championship record Arnold Palmer had set on the same course 11 years earlier. It was enough for a three-stroke victory ahead of the runners-up, the American, Johnny Miller, and the Englishman, Neil Coles. Weiskopf was the first man since Henry Cotton in 1934 to win the Open while holding sole possession of the lead after each round.

Success on the Scottish coast came during a purple patch in which Weiskopf claimed five tournaments over a ten-week period. "Golf has another new idol," declared *Sports Illustrated*. At the end of 1973 he was unofficially ranked as the second-best player in the world. The number one, Jack Nicklaus, described him as boasting "more natural talent and more shots than anyone else in the game today".

However, his first victory in a major proved to be his last. Weiskopf's fiery temperament resurfaced and he went winless in 1974. After the release of the smash-hit disaster movie he acquired the nickname the Towering Inferno.

Unusually tall and powerful for the era — he was 6ft 3in and averaged 285 yards off the tee — Weiskopf was

blessed with one of the sweetest swings in golf. But he was impetuous, too hard on himself and tended to lose focus if he was playing very well or very badly. The former player Frank Beard described him in 1981 as "a ten-year-old child who has been given a million-dollar gift".

Weiskopf led the field by four shots at a tournament in Vancouver in 1966 only to implode after being distracted by a camera on the 15th tee. He was fined and placed on probation by the PGA Tour in 1976 for quitting a tournament mid-round. A few weeks later he was disqualified for ignoring a warning siren and playing on while the course was cleared before a thunderstorm. At the 1996 US Senior Open he railed against his playing partner for marking a ball with a coin that was too shiny.

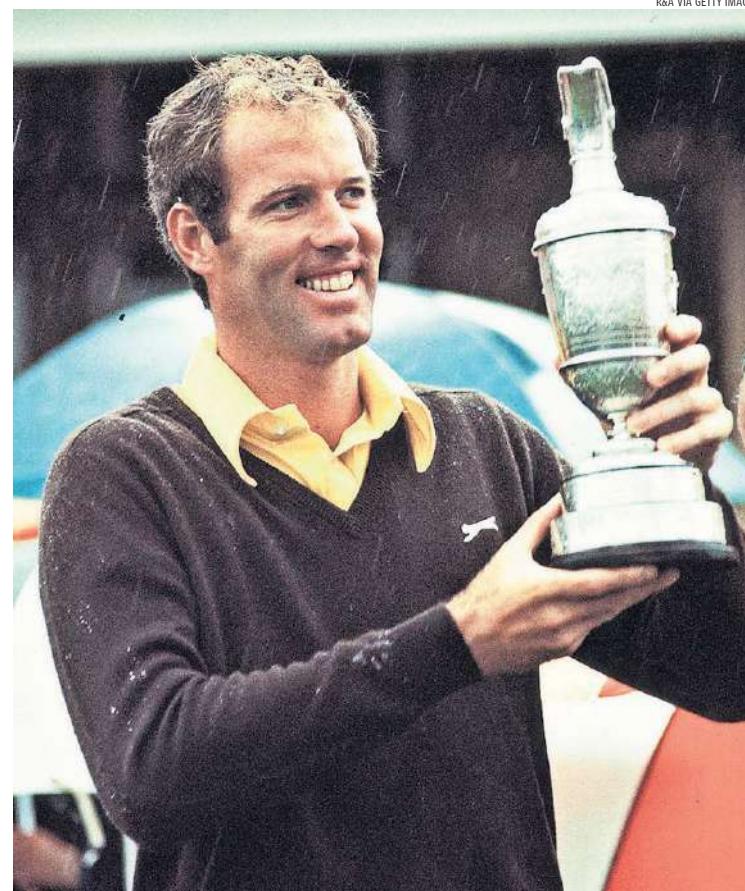
He finished joint-second at the 1976 US Open and was runner-up at the Masters four times, including an ago-

His temperament earned him the nickname the Towering Inferno

nising one-stroke loss to Nicklaus in 1975. He is also remembered at Augusta for the indignity of scoring a record-high 13 on the par-three 12th in 1980, five balls drowning in Rae's Creek.

A drinking problem in his prime hardly helped. "If I was playing well, I had a late tee time and had time to recover," he insisted to *Golf Digest* in 2009. "All I needed was six hours' sleep, a milkshake and a cheeseburger, and I was fine." He lacked the work ethic and single-mindedness of rivals such as Nicklaus. Weiskopf represented the US at the Ryder Cup in 1973 and 1975 but chose to skip the 1977 edition in order to hunt bighorn sheep in the Canadian Rockies.

Nicklaus felt that Weiskopf was burdened by a sense of perspective. "Tom's priorities for life in the round never



Weiskopf, with his 1973 trophy at Troon, had one of the sweetest swings in golf

gelled with his immense golfing talent. All of the skills were there in abundance, but it was impossible for him to sustain the amount of desire necessary to totally capitalise on them," he wrote in his 1997 autobiography, *My Story*. "Tom Weiskopf is one of the least selfish people I know, and in relation to golf this might have been his greatest handicap."

Thomas Daniel Weiskopf was born

in Massillon, Ohio, in 1942, to Thomas, a keen golfer who worked as a personnel manager for a railway company and turned to alcohol to ease the stress of having to sack his best friend, and Eva Shorb, an excellent player who largely gave up competitive golf to raise her family. He attended Ohio State University, where he met Nicklaus, a fellow student, who encouraged him to turn

professional in 1964. In 1966 he wed Jeanne Ruth, a beauty queen from Minnesota. The union ended in divorce in 1999. He remarried in 2007, to Laurie, an estate agent, who survives him along with a daughter from his first marriage, Heidi, a project manager and interior designer. A son from his first marriage, Eric, who caddied for his father and held a variety of outdoors-related jobs, died in 2021.

Weiskopf won 16 PGA Tour competitions between 1968 and 1982 before pivoting to golf course design, helping to shape numerous highly regarded courses including Troon North in the Arizona desert and, with near-fatal consequences, Loch Lomond in Scotland.

Awoken at 4am by an anxiety dream about the planned 14th hole, he decided to take a look alone in the early light and stepped into a deep peat bog. Stuck in the mud, he panicked, thrashed around and sank up to his armpits. He grabbed a tree branch and hauled himself out, inch by inch, escaping after an exhausting four hours.

In 1993 he joined the senior circuit. The following year his close friend, the golfer Bert Yancey, collapsed during a practice session before a tournament and died of a heart attack. Weiskopf won the competition two days later. He was also victorious at the 1995 US Senior Open, when for once it was Nicklaus who had to settle for second.

Weiskopf was working as a television analyst in 1986 when the 46-year-old Nicklaus won his 18th major at Augusta with a thrilling late surge as Seve Ballesteros and Greg Norman wilted under the pressure. Asked by his co-commentator what was going through Nicklaus's mind, Weiskopf replied: "If I knew the way he thought, I would have won this tournament."

Tom Weiskopf, golfer, was born on November 9, 1942. He died of pancreatic cancer on August 20, 2022, aged 79

Cyrus Mistry

Chairman of Tata Group whose removal in a boardroom coup was one of the most dramatic in Indian corporate history

Before a board meeting in October 2016, Cyrus Mistry was summoned to a side room and asked to resign as chairman of Tata Group, one of the world's largest companies. He declined, thinking the matter closed. Instead, his fellow directors voted him out at the meeting that followed.

It was the biggest setback in the softly spoken Mistry's career with two of India's key family-run corporations. As well as Tata, which employs 150,000 people around the world and owns Jaguar Land Rover, Tetley Tea and Corus, the former British Steel, he had been managing director of his family's Shapoorji Pallonji Group, which is in global engineering, construction, energy, property, financial services, ports and rail terminals. The Tata and Pallonji families had long been intertwined by marriage and mutual shareholdings.

After his sacking, Mistry broke his habitual public silence to take the Tata Group to court, claiming that he had been removed illegally in a series of cases that riveted India's business community for the next five years. Ultimately the country's Supreme Court rejected his claims.

The reasons for the falling out — one of the most dramatic in Indian corporate history — were never fully established, but it was significant that Ratan Tata, the group's patriarch who appointed Mistry in 2011, immediately stepped in as interim chairman until a

replacement could be found. Even though Ratan had said he was retiring, he had remained chairman of the parallel Tata Trusts, leading Mistry to complain of interference, alleging that Ratan had made "wrong investments" and that he had been unable to put in place an adequate turnaround strategy for the financial situation he inherited. He also hinted at improper dealings by the Tata firms — Tata Trusts, Tata Sons and the Tata operating companies.

A Tata statement said that its performance under Mistry had been weak and that he had been seeking to "consciously dismantle" the group's traditional management organisation. "We now have an unacceptable new structure, where the chairman alone is the only common director across several companies, and this situation could not be allowed to go on," the statement added.

It listed Tata Steel Europe, the DoCoMo-Tata Tele joint venture and Tata Motors' Indian operations as "problem companies" where there was "no noticeable improvement in operations", with widening losses, increasing debt and declining market share. Mistry had cut dividends from over 40 Tata companies,

and was selling loss-making foreign steel plants that Ratan had bought.

When he was appointed in 2011, he was the first non-family member to head Tata for 80 years. Yet he was described as "a Tata in all but name" and Indian newspapers predicted that he would hold the position until the retirement age of 70, which would have implied a 26-year reign. He had been chosen over his brother-in-law, Noel Tata, who had been regarded as too inexperienced.

Of Mistry, Ratan Tata said then: "He is intelligent and qualified to take on the responsibility being offered, and I will be committed to working with him over the next year to give him the exposure, involvement and operating experience to equip him to undertake the full responsibility of the group on my retirement."

However, *The Times* sounded a prescient warning note: "The decision also reflects the complex undercurrents in the Tata group. Pallonji Mistry, Cyrus's father, is a billionaire whose family holds an 18 per cent stake in Tata, making him the group's biggest single shareholder. Only philanthropic trusts linked to the Tata family hold more [in total]. The Mistrys' influence over the



company, which dates back 80 years, has at times been a source of tension."

After leaving Tata, Cyrus returned to Shapoorji Pallonji, which has built luxury hotels, stadiums, palaces and factories across Asia. But it had its own succession problems, as Pallonji had died in June that year, aged 93.

Although shocked by the Supreme Court's verdict last year, Mistry said: "We will take the knocks on our chins. My conscience is clear. My aim at Tata was to ensure a robust brand-driven system of decision making and governance that is larger than any single individual."

Cyrus Pallonji Mistry was born in Bombay (now Mumbai) in 1968, the younger son of the Indian billionaire and construction magnate Pallonji Mistry and his wife Patsy Perin Dubash, who belonged to the Zoroastrian faith and had roots in India. However, Patsy was born in Ireland, and his father took Irish citizenship, which was passed on to their children. Mistry had a brother, Shapoor, and two sisters, Laila and Aloo — Aloo is married to Noel Tata, the half-brother of Ratan Tata.

Mistry was educated at the Cathedral & John Connon School in south Bombay. He obtained a degree in civil engineering from Imperial College London and a master's degree in management at London Business School and held a bachelor of commerce from Mumbai University. He married

Rohiq Chagla, daughter of the lawyer Iqbal Chagla, who advised Mistry in the legal battle against Tata. They had two sons, Firoz and Zahran.

The Pallonji business began over a century ago, and Mistry's grandfather, Shapoorji Mistry, first bought into Tata Sons in the 1930s. Mistry joined his own family's business as a director in 1991. The plump, bespectacled and earnest Cyrus grew up in a different era and earned a reputation for sincerity and straightforwardness. He oversaw the diversification of the company.

Mistry described himself as a voracious reader of business books and an occasional golfer who also inherited his family's love of horses.

In 2018 he and his brother Shapoor set up a venture capital firm, Mistry Ventures, to incubate new businesses, forge partnerships and invest. Cyrus said it would focus on providing mentorship and help start-ups bring products and services to market. In the same year they funded the Shapoorji Pallonji Institute for Zoroastrian Studies in memory of their grandfather at London's School of Oriental and African Studies.

Cyrus Mistry, businessman, was born on July 4, 1968. He died in a car accident on September 4, 2022, aged 54

A new collection of Times obits

Delve into the lives of the eccentric, unique and undefinable

If you are one of those peculiar people who like to read the obituaries first, after a cursory skim of the news pages, take comfort in the thought that you are not alone. The comment thread would suggest you may even be in a majority.

And perhaps wanting to start your day by reading the obits first is not so strange, when you think about it. They are, after all, portraits of extraordinary lives — short biographies of people who made an impact, one way or another. Far from being gloomy or morbid they are often life affirming and entertaining, too, full of colour, felicities and, more often than you would imagine, kindly humour. In a world of social media snippets, moreover, they are not only "long-form", as we nowadays like to say when we mean "long", but they also have a satisfying narrative arc, with pleasing cadences and a natural, cradle-to-grave, beginning, middle and end.

As the obituaries editor of *The Times*, I encourage our team of writers to weave a spell and draw upon anecdote and illuminating personal detail to tell the story of a life, give insight into character and assess whether the subject of the obituary was right or wrong in the handling of their public affairs. We try to make our obits not only a cool mixture of fact and assessment but also deadpan in style and gently subversive. They should also be detached — hence they are not signed — and written with a certain literary swagger, but also alive to human frailty, conveying a mood in prose that is attractive and dispassionate, sympathetic rather than sentimental.

Although most *Times* obits are of the great and the good — the First Sea Lords, the Nobel Prize winners, the archbishops — they do not have to be. Sometimes they are of the bad, such as a mafia boss or City fraudster, or at least the wayward — a philandering footballer or a drug-fuelled, hedonistic rock star.

When we have a big name, such as a Stephen Hawking, David Bowie or Muhammad Ali, we will run only one obit, weighing in at around 3,000 words. But most days we have three, at shorter lengths, and because over the course of a year that adds up to more than a thousand obits, it is easy to lose track and forget some of the quirky, less well-known ones who ought not to be forgotten.

In a new collection of *Times* obituaries, *Lives Less Ordinary: obituaries of the eccentric, unique and undefinable*, I have gathered 80 of my favourites. They date back to 2016, the slightly random time frame chosen because that was when I started, as an aide-memoire, keeping a list of the obit subjects who made me smile, or gasp. These were usually the eccentrics, rogues and mavericks who saw the world in different colours and marched to the beat of their own drum.

The term eccentric is often used as a synonym for charismatic or whimsical, which is why no one really minds being called it. The English especially pride themselves on their eccen-



tricity, even though, almost by definition, anyone who calls themselves an eccentric cannot be one. That is the curious thing: true eccentrics never think that their behaviour is eccentric.

The dictionary tells us that an eccentric is someone who deviates from the conventional or established norm. Literally, the word means off-centre, or outside the circle. Clearly though, there is more to it than that. According to Dr David Weeks, a clinical neuropsychologist who wrote a study on this subject, eccentrics tend to be unembarrassed and have the sort of buoyant positivism that comes from being comfortable in their own skin. They are often possessed of a mischievous sense of humour, are opinionated, quixotic and impulsive — and they are wont to find unconventional solutions to problems. They tend to be gifted, intelligent and capable of extreme creativity, too, thanks to what Freud called their looseness of repression.

Simon Norton, a maths genius with a passion for bus timetables, was a good example of this. He appears in the pages of this new book, chuckling not at the world but with it.

Eccentrics, being unconcerned with conformity and generally happier than most people, are naturally much less prone to stress and, so, tend to live longer. They also often have healthy libidos, such as James Wharram, also featured, who spent his days sailing around the world with a harem of women, or the bohemian Eve Babitz, who wrote an insouciant and impish memoir about her many sexual conquests. There is also Zsa Zsa Gábor, she of the nine husbands. As we say in the opening line of her obit: "Provided that you were not married to Zsa Zsa Gábor — and many people were — she could be a lot of fun."

Others featured in this collection are Baroness Trumpington, the codebreaking, chainsmoking, two-finger flicking grande dame of British politics, Rod Temperton, the former fish filletier from Cleethorpes who made millions from writing hits such as *Thriller* for Michael Jackson, but eschewed fame, and Professor James Campbell, the Oxford don who was so absent minded he nearly set himself on fire one day when he put a lit pipe in his jacket pocket. And let us not forget the wonderfully singular Earl of St Germans, who ran the Port Eliot

rock festival, delighted in idleness and claimed he could barely read or write. Pictured on the cover is Jordan, the wildly idiosyncratic "queen of punk".

Some of the obit subjects featured I knew personally — the reliably controversial philosopher Sir Roger Scruton, the bloody-minded co-founder of *Private Eye* Christopher Booker, and the socialite and gender reassignment pioneer April Ashley. Usually, though, our first "encounter" with the subject we are writing about is when we talk to their family and friends — and sometimes their enemies — or when we are given access to their often unpublished memoirs, diaries and letters. In one strange case I felt the subject, Clive Nicholls QC, was helping me with his own obit from beyond the grave. I talked to his identical twin Colin, who was also a QC, and asked him what his brother was like. "Well," he said, "he was just like me. We even sounded the same on the phone."

Most of the obits collected are affectionate in tone, but not all. It is tempting to confer sainthoods on the recently departed, out of respect, but obituaries should be balanced accounts that are lively and irreverent, not bland hagiographies that only serve to diminish the memory of the subject. They should include character flaws as well as strengths, professional failures as well as successes. If someone was pompous, vain or prickly (or for that matter a spiv, pseud or charlatan) we like to reflect that. A little scuttlebutt can add to the flavour too.

One obit that stands out in this regard is the one of Sir Jeremiah Harman, the "rude, lazy, short-tempered, unpredictable" judge known in legal circles as "Harman the Horrible". If his notoriety bothered him, he never showed it. Indeed, he seemed to relish his waspish reputation. A member of his family got in touch after our obit appeared to say we got him spot on.

What I enjoy about the obituary as a genre is that the casting is so unpredictable, with people from all walks of life rubbing shoulders on the page — a dotty dowager sharing column inches with a war veteran, a cross-dressing Venezuelan cabaret artist with a cabinet minister. I also like that it combines two of my favourite subjects, modern history and philosophy. For obits, by their nature, have meaning and profundity. They mark the moment where life comes full circle. And even though the general cause of death is always the same — birth — we try and give the specific cause. On one occasion I heard a colleague who had been struggling to find it out all afternoon, exclaim to a caller on the phone: "Arterial aneurism, that's brilliant!"

Nigel Farndale

● **The Times Lives Less Ordinary: obituaries of the eccentric, unique and undefinable** (HarperCollins, £14.99) is available from thetimes.co.uk/bookshop

Births, Marriages and Deaths

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FOR I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39 AV

Births

SOAMES on 27th July 2022 to Georgina (née Reeves) and Christopher, a son, Maximillian Christopher Frederick, brother to Barney.

Forthcoming Marriages

MR H. PRITCHARD AND MISS S. ASHFORD

The engagement is announced between Henry, son of David and Frances Pritchard, and Sophie, daughter of Norman and Nasreen Ashford.

Deaths

BENNETT William Ingham Brooke OBE, Hon RAM, professor, flautist, known as Webb died on 11th May 2022, aged 86. A memorial will be held at the Holy Sepulchre Church, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1A 2DQ, on 17th September 2022 at 3pm. Funeral streaming: <https://youtu.be/VaZSMy8uCo> Information: beeprecords@gmail.com

GOWRIE-SMITH



Jan Maree (née Lussick) on 21st December 2021, aged 70.

Born in Milng, Western Australia. Late of London, Mallorca, Perth and Sydney. Died in her sleep in Australia late last year.

Loving and loved mother to Baden, Skye and Lachlan. Adoring grandmother of Ava, Maximus, India, Otilie, Arne and Viggjo. Loved sister of Dell and daughter of John and Daphne (deceased). Loving wife of Ian. Loving aunt and mother-in-law. Treasured friend to so many.

A memorial will be held at All Saints Church, Fulham, on 21st September 2022 at 2.15pm. A gathering will follow at the Hurlingham Club, please email jannmareememorial@gmail.com to join us there.

Court Circular



Palace of Holyroodhouse

12th September, 2022

The King and The Queen Consort this morning travelled to Westminster Hall, Palace of Westminster, London SW1, and were received upon arrival by the Lord Great Chamberlain (the Lord Carrington). The Lord Speaker (the Lord McFall of Alcluth) read, and then presented, an Address from the House of Lords to The King.

Afterwards the Lord Speaker of the House of Commons (the Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP) read, and subsequently presented, an Address from the House of Commons to His Majesty. The King was graciously pleased to make reply to both Addresses.

Their Majesties later arrived at Edinburgh Airport and were received by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Councillor Robert Aldridge, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost) and the Rt Hon Alister Jack MP (Secretary of State for Scotland).

The King and The Queen Consort drove to the Palace of Holyroodhouse and were received in the Forecourt by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh and members of the City of Edinburgh Council, when the Rt Hon the Lord Provost surrendered to The King the Keys of the City, which His Majesty returned to him.

A Guard of Honour found by Balaklava Company, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland, under the command of Major Robert Weir, was mounted in the Forecourt.

Subsequently The King and The Queen Consort were received inside the Palace by the Hereditary Keeper (the

GRAHAM David Alan, Major (Ret'd) RE 1924-2022. Died peacefully on 24th August. Much-loved father to Patsy and grandfather to Kate, Rachel, Andy and Chris.

HARDING

Christine Colart (née Harkness) on 2nd September 2022, aged 93. Died peacefully in Exeter. Beloved wife of the late Tony, sister of Linda and cousin of Clare. Christine will be missed by her stepchildren Peter, Vanessa, Katherine and Michael, their families and her many friends.

Funeral at Exeter and Devon Crematorium on Tuesday, 20th September at 3.30pm. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired, to Hospiscare at the service or via the funeral directors www.peterfrankurl.co.uk

HENSHER Capt Alan MBE RN Retd. Passed away peacefully on 28th August 2022, aged 94. Beloved widower of Valerie. Beloved father of Nick and Peter. Much-loved grandfather of Alexandra, Harriet and Georgina and great-grandfather of Maisie and Hunter. A service of thanksgiving for his life will be held at St Luke's Church, Milland, Liphook GU30 7LU on 28th September 2022 at 1.30pm. All welcome. Family flowers only please. Donations may be made to Cancer Research UK.

LIBSON John died on 9th September 2022, aged 84. Much-loved husband of Maxine and father of James, Emma, Nancy and Deborah and father-in-law to Anne, Doug and Nick. Adored by his grandchildren, Jake, Polly, Noah, Oscar, Cecily, Eden, Adelaide, Stella and Felix. Wonderful brother to Susan. Will be greatly missed by the whole extended family. John was a highly respected chartered accountant and was well regarded by clients, colleagues and his many friends.

PIX Barbara Diana (née Stokeld) on 19th August in JR Hospital, Oxford, dearly loved wife of Stephen, devoted mother of Elizabeth, Huw and Andy, dear mother-in-law to Sam and Janice, proud granny to Sophie and formerly wife of the late Dennis Vaughan. Funeral on Friday 23rd September at 12.30pm in St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock. No flowers, donations if desired can be made via www.jerramsbrothers.co.uk

REED Piers Knowles Moorhouse died on 31st August 2022, aged 70. Dearly loved husband to Sarah. Father to Pierrette, Tanya and Amy. Grandfather to Jenson, Samuel, Darcey and Margot. Bencher of Lincoln's Inn and member of Westgate Chambers. A memorial service will be held at 3pm on 20th September 2022 at Eastbourne Crematorium.

SHEAN Mrs Sybil Violet (née Forster) died peacefully at home on 28th August, aged 101. Private cremation.

SPRAY Robert Anthony died on 4th September 2022, aged 80. Formerly of Nottingham, Oxford, Watford, Turvey and Olney. For 56 years, dear husband and sparring partner of Jo. Sometimes exasperated, but generally proud father to Jon and Dom, malleable father-in-law and devoted grandpa. Much loved by his family nearly all of the time, and respected by a sizeable majority of those who met him. We will miss him very much. A funeral service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Peter and St Paul Church, Olney, at midday on 24th September (family flowers only please).

STEWART Charlotte Elizabeth Mary (Betty) (née Thompson) passed away on 4th September 2022, aged 93. Betty passed away peacefully at Connaught Court Care Home in York having moved from Burton upon Trent and Repton a couple of years previously. Much-loved mother to Caroline and Claire and widow of Dr Neil Stewart. Funeral at York Crematorium Tuesday, 20th September at 12.40pm; donations, if desired, to Age UK.

Funeral Arrangements

WAYGOOD Jennifer Jane (Petty) (née Morshead) at St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, on 17th September 2022 at 2.30pm. Further details: celebratingjane.weebly.com

Memorial Services



GREEN Alan at Wadham College, Oxford, on 22nd October 2022 at 2pm. It is with sadness we announce the death of Alan in March, aged 95, at home in Letchworth. He leaves his beloved wife of 62 years Shirley, children Alastair and Caroline and four doting grandchildren. A proud Yorkshirian, RAF officer, accomplished linguist, and lifelong supporter and alumnus of Wadham College.

His memorial service will be held in Wadham College Chapel, Wadham College, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PN, followed by tea in Hall. All welcome. Please register your attendance either here: <https://forms.office.com/r/UH2JXAYv3> or directly by email with Rachel Saunders at Wadham (see address below). No flowers thank you; instead, donations to Alzheimer's Research UK, sadly in whose grip Shirley finds herself: <https://donate.alzheimersresearchuk.org/publicnew/>

ALAN GREEN 25th September 1926 – 17th March 2022. 01865 277970 rachel.saunders@wadham.ox.ac.uk <https://forms.office.com/r/UH2JXAYv3>

Thanksgiving Services

YATES William Hugh. A service of Thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Bill Yates will be held at St Peter's Church, Milton Lilbourne, on 15th October at 2.30pm.

General Announcements

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPIST

Clinical hypnotherapy group seven sessions on healthy nutrition and motivation to get back to exercise and live a healthy lifestyle, making a change. Leah.hypnotherapist@gmail.com <https://leahhypnotherapist.wixsite.com/mysite/services>

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Weather

Today Showers in northern Scotland and on the south coast, drier and sunnier elsewhere. Max 21C (70F), min 7C (45F)

Around Britain

Key: b=bright, c=cloud, d=dizzle, pc=partly cloudy, du=dull, f=fog, fg=fog, h=hill, m=mist, r=rain, sh=showers, sl=sleet, sn=snow, s=sun, t=thunder, *=previous day **=data not available

	Temp C midday yesterday	Rain mm 24 hrs to 5pm yesterday	Sun hr**
Aberdeen	17	B	10.0 4.9
Aberporth	19	R	2.4 0.1
Anglesey	17	D	6.4 1.0
Aviemore	15	D	1.8 2.5
Barnstaple	22	S	0.0 **
Bedford	22	C	0.0 **
Belfast	15	B	4.8 0.3
Birmingham	18	R	4.4 **
Bournemouth	23	PC	0.0 7.7
Bridlington	18	C	2.8 **
Bristol	24	C	0.0 2.4
Camborne	21	C	0.0 0.0
Cardiff	21	PC	0.0 0.2
Edinburgh	17	C	6.4 1.1
Eskdalemuir	16	D	16.6 1.0
Glasgow	16	C	17.8 0.3
Hereford	20	PC	0.8 **
Herstmonceux	22	PC	0.0 4.9
Ipswich	23	PC	0.0 4.5
Isle of Man	17	B	7.4 0.2
Isle of Wight	**	**	0.0 **
Jersey	24	PC	0.0 11.9
Keswick	16	C	4.0 **
Kinloss	14	C	4.2 3.3
Leeds	18	C	6.2 **
Lerwick	11	M	16.8 4.2
Leuchars	18	PC	7.6 3.2
Lincoln	21	PC	1.6 3.4
Liverpool	19	B	9.0 **
London	23	PC	0.0 3.3
Lyneham	23	C	0.0 4.3
Manchester	**	**	** 0.0
Margate	**	**	** **
Milford Haven	21	PC	3.2 **
Newcastle	17	C	3.4 **
Nottingham	21	PC	1.8 0.8
Orkney	14	C	6.4 4.7
Oxford	23	PC	0.0 **
Plymouth	22	C	0.0 **
Portland	22	S	0.0 **
Scilly, St Mary's	18	S	0.0 **
Shoreham	24	C	0.0 4.9
Shrewsbury	21	C	1.2 0.0
Snowdonia	17	C	22.8 **
Southend	23	PC	0.0 3.8
South Uist	14	C	5.2 **
Stornoway	13	**	7.8 0.4
Tiree	14	PC	0.6 1.1
Whitehaven	17	C	8.4 4.3
Wick	15	PC	1.8 **
Yevilton	24	S	0.0 5.1

The world

All readings local midday yesterday

Alicante	31	PC	Madeira	26	PC
Amsterdam	23	PC	Madrid	26	R
Athens	29	PC	Malaga	26	PC
Auckland	18	B	Mallorca	36	S
Bahrain	41	S	Malta	30	PC
Bangkok	31	PC	Melbourne	12	B
Barbados	31	PC	Mexico City	24	PC
Barcelona	29	R	Miami	34	B
Beijing	28	S	Milan	26	S
Beirut	30	PC	Mombasa	29	PC
Belgrade	22	B	Montreal	26	B
Berlin	20	PC	Moscow	12	S
Bermuda	29	PC	Mumbai	29	S
Bordeaux	33	S	Munich	20	PC
Brussels	24	S	Nairobi	25	PC
Bucharest	24	S	Naples	28	PC
Budapest	20	B	New Orleans	31	S
Berlin	20	PC	Paris	25	S
Bermuda	29	PC	Perth	24	S
Copenhagen	18	S	Prague	18	PC
Corfu	30	PC	Reykjavik	11	B
Delhi	33	PC	Riga	12	C
Dubai	39	S	Rio de Janeiro	20	C
Dublin	17	D	Riyadh	41	S
Faro	21	R	Rome	29	PC
Florence	29	PC	San Francisco	24	B
Frankfurt	23	S	Santiago	12	C
Geneva	23	S	Sao Paulo	13	C
Gibraltar	23	C	Seoul	26	B
Helsinki	16	B	Seychelles	26	PC
Hong Kong	33	PC	Singapore	31	B
Honolulu	30	B	St Petersburg	15	PC
Istanbul	22	B	Stockholm	17	PC
Jerusalem	31	S	Sydney	19	S
Johannesburg	26	S	Tel Aviv	31	S
Kuala Lumpur	33	PC	Tenerife	27	PC
Kyiv	**	**	Tokyo	29	PC
Lanzarote	27	PC	Vancouver	25	S
Las Palmas	27	PC	Venice	25	PC
Lima	15	DU	Vienna	21	PC
Lisbon	22	B	Warsaw	13	B
Los Angeles	29	PC	Washington	24	C
Luxor	36	S	Zurich	20	S

Five days ahead

Mainly dry with sunny spells for most, scattered showers across Scotland and some coastal areas

Tomorrow

Scattered showers clearing southern England, otherwise remaining dry with some sunny spells and isolated showers across northern Scotland. Max 22C, min 5C

Thursday

Mainly dry with sunny spells across Ireland and southern Britain with the chance of an isolated shower. Scattered showers across Scotland and northern and eastern England. Max 19C, min 5C

Friday

A mostly dry day with sunny spells and scattered showers in northern and coastal areas. A chance of the odd isolated shower in southern England. Feeling fresher and breezy in places. Max 17C, min 2C

Saturday

Largely dry with sunny spells across England, Wales and Ireland. Showery rain across Scotland, with the chance of isolated showers across northern and eastern England. Max 17C, min 4C

Sunday

Mostly dry with sunny spells, but the chance of scattered showers across northern Scotland and the odd isolated shower across England, most likely near the coast. Max 18C, min 3C

The Times weather page is provided by Weatherquest

Wind speed

34 (mph)

Temperature

28 (degrees C)

Flood alerts and warnings

At 17:00 on Tuesday there were 13 flood alerts and three warnings in England, three flood alerts and no warnings in Wales, but no flood alerts or warnings in Scotland. For further information and updates in England visit flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk, for Wales naturalresources.wales/flooding and for Scotland SEPA.org.uk

ATLANTIC OCEAN

IRISH SEA

CELTIC SEA

CHANNEL

North Sea

Shetland

Orkney

Sea state

Wind

Temperature

Humidity

Cloud

Pressure

Wind direction

Wind speed

Wind gusts

Wind direction

Wind gusts

Sport

Yarmouth

Rob Wright

1.35 Navy Drums 3.55 Admiralty House
2.10 Zoology 4.30 Romantic Time
2.45 Beechwood Mick 5.03 Han Solo Berger

Going: good to soft

Draw: no advantage

Sky Sports Racing

1.35 Handicap (£3,726; 5f) (13)

1 (6) 21162 FORESEEABLE FUTURE 7 (V,C,D) R Carr 7-9-10
B Sayette (3)
2 (13) 05406 MEHMO 35 (V,D) C Dunnett 4-9-10
E J Walsh
3 (4) 26555 NAVY DRUM 15 (H) R Cowell 4-9-4
G Downing
4 (8) 34204 PORTELETA BAY 70 (T,V,B,F,C) P Evans 4-9-7
H Doyle
5 (1) 23346 AMASOVA 10 (D) Alice Haynes 4-9-6
C Howarth (5)
6 (12) 02020 FOR PEAT'S SAKE 10 (V,D) M Appleby 4-9-5 F Larson (5)
7 (7) 00665 CHANSON D'AMOUR 19 (P) J Charalambous / J Clutterbuck 3-9-1
M Harley
8 (11) 00066 PRIVATELE 19 (T) R Cowell 4-8-13
R Havlin
9 (9) 66503 SWELL SONG 41 (V) R Cowell 6-8-10
H Turner
10 (5) 04450 ENCHANTED NIGHT 19 (P) C Dunnnett 4-8-9 Lollen Storey
11 (10) 00606 ROBERT FROST 35 (K) T Kent 5-9-9
J F Egan
12 (2) 00400 NEMORUM 23 (B) T Kent 3-8-8
C Fallon
13 (3) 00040 GLEN ETIVE 35 (P,T) W Jarvis 3-8-8
David Egan
3-1 Foreseeable Future, 9-2 Portelte Bay, 5-1 Amasova, 13-2 For Peat's Sake, 12-1 Navy Drums, 14-1 Nemorum, Glen Etive, Enchanted Night.

Rob Wright's choice: Navy Drums has ideal conditions and is well-in-Danger Foreseeable Future, Enchanted Night

2.10 Novice Stakes (2-Y-O: £6,426; 6f) (15)

1 (12) ABRAVAGGIO G Margarson 9-7
J F Egan
2 (5) ARARAT (H) D M Simcock 9-7
J P Spencer
3 (15) 0 DARK KESTREL 34 (T) J T Gosden 9-7
R Havlin
4 (4) 3 DICKO THE LEGEND 17 Joseph Parr 9-7
D Muscatt
5 (6) GLOBAL VOLTION C Dwyer 9-7
T Hammer Hansen
6 (1) MOJO BOY C Hills 9-7
T P Qualely
7 (10) 2 PROVERB 17 G Boughey 9-7
W Buick
8 (2) 0 REWILDING 40 R Cowell 9-7
H Turner
9 (9) 0 SAVE THE WORLD 16 C Chapple-Hyam 9-7
H Doyle
10 (7) 0 SKYBLUE EXERT 10 Alice Haynes 9-7
C Howarth (5)
11 (11) SPARTAN ARROW (T) S E Crisford 9-7
David Egan
12 (8) 0 SPEZIATO 15 P D Feoy 9-7
M Harley
13 (13) SSENWAN W Haggas 9-7
T Marquand
14 (3) ZOOLOGY J Ferguson 9-7
C Fallon
15 (14) 50 SPEEDWELL 13 Alice Haynes 9-2
S M Levey
5-2 Proverb, 5-1 Dicko The Legend, 7-1 Ssenwan, Spartan Arrow, 8-1 others.

Wright choice: Zoology holds an entry in the group one Middle Park Stakes Dangers Dicks The Legend, Proverb

2.45 Handicap (2-Y-O: £4,536; 7f) (8)

1 (8) 43023 DUCHRAY 16 C & M Johnston 9-9
O Stammers (3)
2 (5) 0606 MICKEY DONOVAN 25 P Evans 9-9
G Downing
3 (4) 051 BEECHWOOD MICK 39 (D) D Loughnane 9-8
S James
4 (7) 64036 MANWHOINKSHECAN 34 (V) E Dunlop 9-8
T Marquand
5 (1) 046 TOP OF THE CLASS 86 (P) M Loughnane 9-7
J F Walsh
6 (2) 20604 BARLOW BARLOW 16 (P) M Appleby 9-3
F Larson (5)
7 (6) 604 TWILIGHT GUEST 40 G Margarson 9-1
T P Qualely
8 (3) 520 ZEBRA STAR 45 G Boughey 9-0
W Buick
13-8 Thankyouapreciate, 7-2 Dark Crusade, 4-1 Jade Grey, 7-1 others.

Wright choice: Beechwood Mick beat Duchray at Newmarket; he can follow up Dangers Manwhoinkshecan, Duchray

3.20 Restricted Maiden Stakes (2-Y-O: £3,672; 1m 1f) (8)

1 (2) 4 CORISCAN CAPER 20 K P D Feoy 9-7
D Muscatt
2 (3) DIONYSIAN S C Williams 9-7
S M Levey
3 (5) 0 RAMENSKY 18 W Haggas 9-7
T Marquand
4 (4) 023 CHOURAAN 24 M Channon 9-5
David Egan
5 (1) HAALAND G Kelleway 9-5
R Havlin
6 (7) 5 HAVANAZAM 20 A Balding 9-5
W Buick
7 (6) 4 TIMEWAVE 49 C & M Johnston 9-5
H Doyle
8 (8) 6 DANCE HAVANA 20 (T) Alice Haynes 9-0 C Howarth (5)
7-2 Corsican Caper, 9-2 Chouraam, Ramenzy, Havanazam, 13-2 Timewave, 7-1 Dance Havana, 12-1 Haaland, Dionysian.

Wright choice: Corsican Caper showed promise at Kempton and this trip will suit Dangers Ramenzy, Havanazam

3.55 Handicap (£5,508; 1m 2f) (10)

1 (8) 15505 RAAJIL 34 Tom Clover 4-10-3
J Mitchell
2 (9) 01661 MAGICAL MILE 19 (V,D) I Mohammed 4-9-13
B Sayette (3)
3 (3) 0-43 GLEN ESK 92 (B,F,C) C Wall 5-9-11
Kaiya Fraser (7)
4 (5) -5200 KAARANAH 15 J Butler 4-9-11
D Muscatt
5 (7) 5-110 STORM CASTLE 33 (D) J T Gosden 3-9-11
R Havlin
6 (4) 14130 TARABAAN 86 (T) Miss A Murphy 3-9-10
T Marquand
7 (11) 2245 ADMIRALTY HOUSE 25 (H) A King 3-9-10
M Harley
8 (2) 245 CAPSTAN 72 Sir M Stoute 3-9-7
C Fallon
9 (1) 4215 END OF LAGLES 73 (T,D) G Boughey 3-9-4
W Buick
10 (6) 5660 CUMULONIMBUS 46 C Fellowes 3-9-1
H Doyle
4-1 Admiralty House, 5-1 Magical Mile, 11-2 Glen Esk, 6-1 others.

Wright choice: Admiralty House was unlucky when beaten a head at Newbury Dangers Capstan, Kaaranah

4.30 Fillies' Handicap (£7,560; 6f) (8)

1 (7) 40240 ROMANTIC TIME 38 (C,D) W Stone 3-9-9
H Doyle
2 (3) 55644 HELLO ME 17 (P,D) Joseph Parr 4-9-8
D Muscatt
3 (5) 0-044 DUBAI JEWEL 81 (D) Alex French 3-9-8
S M Levey
4 (1) 4-005 KINGMANIA 87 (C) C Wall 4-9-6
J Mitchell
5 (2) 06555 ZIM BABY 39 (H,B,F,D) M Appleby 5-9-6
F Larson (5)
6 (6) 10-2 TARHIB 89 (B,F,D) W Haggas 4-9-6
J Crowley

Yesterday's racing results

Brighton

Going: good
1.50 (5f 215yd) 1, Whistledown (George Bass, 12-1), 2, Big Bard (7-4 fav); 3, Pablo Del Pueblo (8-1), 10 ran, NK, 2½, M R Channon.

2.25 (6f 210yd) 1, Inspired (Stefano Cherchi, 5-4); 2, Kyogo (5-6 fav); 3, Smokin Joe (12-1), 5 ran, 4½, 4½, M Botti.

3.00 (1m 1f 207yd) 1, Angels Roc (Harry Davies, 9-1); 2, Divine Comedy (4-1); 3, Silver Bubble (3-1); 7 ran, NR: Qeyada, 6½, 4½, J R Boyle.

3.30 (1m 3f 198yd) 1, Atlanta Breeze (Harry Davies, 9-1); 2, Divine Comedy (4-1); 3, Silver Bubble (3-1); 7 ran, NR: Velvet And Steel, 2½, M P Tregoning.

4.00 (7f 216yd) 1, Roundabout Silver (Paddy Bradley, 12-1); 2, Otago (12-1); 3, Platinum Prince (5-6 fav), 12 ran, NR: James Jude, Shafila, ns, ¾, J R Boyle.

4.30 (6f 210yd) 1, Broxi (Nicola Currie, 9-4 fav); 2, Voodoo Ray (8-1); 3, Queen Sarabi (11-1), 11 ran, 4½, 1¾, D K Ivory.

5.00 (5f 60yd) 1, Lethal Angel (Thomas Greatrex, 7-4 fav); 2, Jack Ryan (6-1); 3, Sparked (11-4), 8 ran, 2¾, 2½, B R Johnson.

Placetop: £69.50.

Quadtop: £41.30.

Kempton Park

Going: standard / slow

5.30 (6f) 1, Gumaris (Daniel Muscatt, 9-4 fav); 2, Aira Force (11-2); 3, Lake Eloise (10-1), 10 ran, NR: Ginny Jo, Unagi, 3½, 1. George Scott.

6.00 (6f) 1, Hill Cove (Rob Horney, 14-1); 2, Red Treasure (7-4 jt-fav); 3, Topo Chico (7-2), 10 ran, Hd, nk, J G Portman.

6.30 (7f) 1, Red N Blue Candy (R Kingscote, 12-

1); 2, Lady Dreamer (13-2); 3, Alexandretta (6-4 fav), 11 ran, NR: A Taste Of Honey, Bloomwithgrace, Zarga, NK, 1½, Tom Dascombe.

7.00 (1m 1f) 1, Bonnies (Christian Howarth, 5-1); 2, Hunkpapa (9-1); 3, Sydne Mews (5-1), 8 ran, 1½, 1½, G J Portman.

7.30 (1m 3f 219yd) 1, Ewania (Benoit D L Sayette, 10-1); 2, Sweet William (6-1); 3, Golden Glance (6-1), 12 ran, NK, ¾, K P D Feoy.

8.00 (1m 3f 219yd) 1, Sea Stone (Benoit D L Sayette, 6-1); 2, Flamboyant (6-1); 3, Bunker Bay (5-1), 7 ran, NR: Graph, ¾, 1. I Mohammed.

8.30 (1m 2f 219yd) 1, Jewel In My Crown (Callum Shepherd, 4-1); 2, Pretty Sweet (9-4); 3, Pical (11-10 fav), 4 ran, NR: Croachill, Good American, ¾, ½, Rae Guest.

Placetop: £445.20.

Quadtop: £100.60.

5-1 As If Chance, 11-2 Runnawild, 6-1 It Just Takes Time, 8-1 others.

Thirsk

Going: soft

1.40 (1m 4f 8yd) 1, Fen Tiger (Frederick Larson, 9-4 fav); 2, Jenny Reen (17-2); 3, Bigbadboy (33-1); 4, Turbulent Power (28-1), 16 ran, NR: Burnage Boy, NK, 6½, Miss J Feilden.

2.15 (6f) 1, The Twilight Lady (Jason Hart, 8-1); 2, Kodi Dancer (5-1 fav); 3, Aurora Glory (33-1), 17 ran, NR: Barlow Barlow, Doctor Mozart, Glory Call, 11, ns, R Feller.

2.50 (7f) 1, Royal Rhyme (C Lee, 13-2); 2, In These Shoes (10-3); 3, James McHenry (11-4), 11 ran, HD, 4½, K R Burke.

3.20 (6f) 1, Cheese The One (P Mathers, 15-2); 2, Bomb Squad (2-1 fav); 3, Desert Cat (40-1), 14 ran, NR: Dick Datchery, HD, 4½, R Menezies.

3.50 (5f) 1, Gabriella's Spirit (Oisin McSweeney, 10-3); 2, Proclivity (7-4 fav); 3, Lory (17-2), 5 ran, 11, 2½, E J Alston.

Placetop: £53.60.

Quadtop: £8.90.

Worcester

Going: good

1.00 (2m 7f, ch) 1, Tom O'Roughley (Harry Kimber, 13-2); 2, Corrany (6-1); 3, Kiltorcan Boy (18-1), 8 ran, NR: Jet Fighter, Red Maple, 3½, Sheila Lewis.

1.30 (2m 7f, ch) 1, Aviewtosea (Kielan Woods, 5-2); 2, Punxsutawney Phil (15-8 fav); 3, C E Longsdon.

Placetop: £928.40.

3, Skatman (2-1), 4 ran, NR: Farouk De Cheneau, 1½, 19, F O'Brien.

2.05 (2m 110yd, ch) 1, Clear The Runway (B S Hughes, 4-1); 2, Elios D'Or (4-1); 3, Lermoos Legend (15-2), 7 ran, NR: Leapaway, 10, 16, L Morgan.

2.40 (2m, flat) 1, Genovese (S Bowes, 13-2); 2, Soldat Forte (11-4); 3, Glen Cannell (5-2 fav), 8 ran, NR: Bollywollywoods, NK, 1½, M Keighley.

3.10 (2m, hde) 1, Monte Iguelo (Henry Brooke, 14-1), 2, Winterwatch (15-8 fav); 3, Bahtiyar (16-1), 13 ran, 1½, 1½, Oliver Greenall, Josh Guerrero.

3.40 (2m 7f, hde) 1, Ted's Friend (Max Kendrick, 7-1); 2, Cawthorne Lad (11-1); 3, Oscar Montel (5-1), 8 ran, 1½, 3½, F O'Brien.

4.10 (2m 4f, hde) 1, If I Say (Mr B Roberts, 5-2 fav); 2, Simply Red (3-1); 3, Call Blue (16-1), 10 ran, NR: Sevenofus, 21, 31, C E Longsdon.

Placetop: £20.80.

5.03 Handicap (£5,508; 5f) (11)

1 (10) 05140 JACK THE TRUTH 37 (T,D) G Scott 8-10-0
D Muscatt2 (5) 63000 JOSIES KID 24 (D) Alice Haynes 3-9-12
C Howarth (5)3 (3) 03066 SHANKO 13 (T,V,D) S Williams 3-9-10
S M Levey4 (6) 35312 THE DEFIANT 18 (T,D) D Steele 6-9-7
R Clutterbuck (3)5 (4) 11016 STONE CIRCLE 19 (D) M Bell 5-9-7
B Sayette (3)6 (7) 20554 JAMES WATT 17 (P,D) P Midgley 6-9-7
S James7 (9) 16203 COLOMBIE 17 (T,D) G Boughey 4-9-4
W Buick8 (8) 04464 HAN SOLO BERGER 17 (V,C,D) R Cowell 7-9-0
H Doyle9 (1) 20506 ANGLE LAND 15 (V,D) R Cowell 3-9-0
R Havlin10 (2) 24031 HAVEONEYOURSELF 8 (C,D) J Butler 7-8-13
David Egan11 (1) 24226 GRANDFATHER TOM 32 (V,C,D) R Cowell 7-8-9
H Turner

12-7 The Deidre, 9-2 Stone Circle, 9-1 Haveoneyself, 6-1 Colombe, 10-1 others.

Wright choice: Han Solo Berger is 2lb lower than when winning here in June Dangers James Watt, Haveoneyself

4.38 Novice Stakes (£4,050; 5f) (7)

1 (3) 4-000 IT IS NOW 11 (B) R Varian 3-9-7
R Dawson2 (7) 5 LACONIC 15 (B) D O'Meara 3-9-7
D Tudhope3 (2) FANCIFUL W Haggas 3-9-2
S Donohoe4 (1) LADY PASCHA (T) D Carroll 3-9-2
H Shaw5 (4) 44220 NO GUTS NO GLORY 32 Adrian Nicholls 3-9-2
Doubtful6 (6) 55432 NOTEABLE 24 (P) Craig Lidster 3-9-2
P Mathers7 (5) 53645 PROCLIVITY 22 M Dods 3-9-2
C Beasley

15-9 Fanciful, 4-1 Proclivity, 9-2 It Is Now, 11-2 Noteable, 6-1 Laconic, 8-1 Lady Pascha.

16-9 Kintone, 5-1 Lady Pascha, 11-2 others.

17-10 Quartz Du Rhee, 12-1 others.

18-11 Judge Earle 6 (CD) P Bowen 10-11-17 (ex)

S Bowen

19-12 QUARTZ DU RHEE 83 Jonjo O'Neill 7-11-9
Jonjo O'Neill Jr20-13 111 JUDGE EARLE 21 (B,F) B Case 8-11-12
L Bannister21-6 F233 SHETLAND BUS 29 (T,D) R Newland 9-10-12
L Edwards22-5 45-66 CANELO 90 B Haslam 9-10-10
R McLaren22-1 221-1 KINONDO KWETU 44 S England 6-10-10
J England

23-9 KINONDO KWETU 5-2 Judge Earle, 4-1 Red Happy, 10-1 Quartz Du Rhee, 9-4 Kintone, 5-2 Kintone, 6-1 Judge Earle, 12-1 others.

9-4 Kinondu Kwetu, 5-2 Judge Earle, 4-1 Red Happy, 10-1 Quartz Du Rhee, 9-4 Kintone, 5-2 Kintone, 6-1 Judge Earle, 12-1 others.

10-5 221-1 KINONDO KWETU 44 S England 6-10-10
J England

Alcaraz's rich potential means title is just start

Stuart Fraser

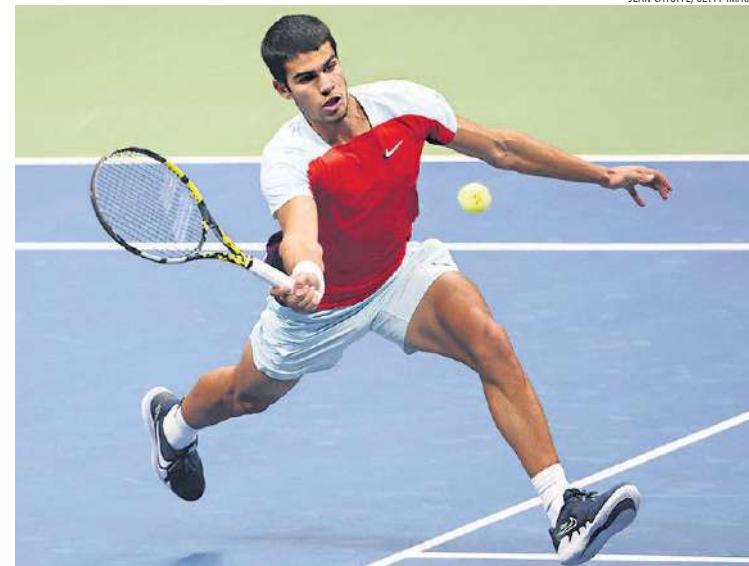
Tennis Correspondent

The words of Carlos Alcaraz's coach in New York late on Sunday night will have sent shudders through the locker room. "I think he's on 60 per cent of his game," Juan Carlos Ferrero said, moments after his charge had won the US Open to become the world No1.

If this is Alcaraz at 60 per cent, then his potential is frightening for those who will be standing across the net from him in the years to come. At the age of 19, the supremely talented Spaniard is the youngest grand-slam men's singles champion since Rafael Nadal at the 2005 French Open. That was famously a seminal moment for the sport on the clay courts of Roland Garros, and it very much felt the same on the hard courts of Flushing Meadows over the past fortnight.

Be in no doubt that this is not a flukey one-off. Alcaraz's performances throughout the year — five ATP Tour titles and victories against Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic — merit him becoming the youngest-ever men's world No1, beating the record that Australia's Lleyton Hewitt set at the age of 20 in 2001. The Alcaraz era has only just begun.

"He can improve a lot of things," Ferrero, a former world No1 himself, said. "He knows and I know that we have to keep working. Once you get to No1, it's not done and you go [on]. You have to keep working and keep playing at a huge level in tournaments to keep winning. He knows that and I know that, I'm going to be very close to him to remind him."



Alcaraz's speed on the court allows him to return seemingly irretrievable shots

Alcaraz is no bolt from the blue. There are countless tales from tennis insiders of being taken aback by his ability when they first watched him play, whether as a junior or a professional. His fighting spirit quickly became evident on his ATP Tour debut at the 2020 Rio Open when he defeated the experienced Albert Ramos-Vinolas in the deciding tie-break of a clay-court match that finished at 3am after three hours and 36 minutes of play.

In New York's Arthur Ashe Stadium, the world's largest tennis venue with a capacity of 23,000, he rose to the occasion with an entertaining mix of brilliance and resilience. In total he played for 23 hours 39 minutes, surpassing South Africa's Kevin Anderson at Wimbledon 2018 for the most time spent on court at a grand-slam since match durations were fully logged in 1999.

"I think Carlos was born to play this kind of tournament and matches," Ferrero said. "Since the moment that I started with him, I saw some things that were different than the other guys at his age. I am still seeing it on the court. In important moments, he always tries to go [for his shots]. This is one of the more difficult things in tennis, even in his first grand-slam final. He's a great competitor, he's there, he's trying all the time."

Alcaraz's scintillating shot-making will often make the highlight reels, but it is his movement that is his biggest strength. He dashes around the court at a blistering pace, returning seemingly irretrievable shots and turning defence into attack. No player received more standing ovations for individual points at this year's US Open.

"It is explosive," Ferrero said. "But at the same time he had to work on it a lot.

When he arrived to the academy when he was 15, he was like spaghetti, very thin. We had to work. Obviously we saw that he had very fast hands, very fast legs, but no muscles at all, not in the back and not in the legs. But obviously we saw something very special in him."

Remarkably, Alcaraz has won at least one set in 65 consecutive matches, stretching back to the Paris Masters last November. He is a phenomenal competitor for someone so young, as also seen in his US Open quarter-final on Thursday when he saved a match point against Jannik Sinner before coming back to win in five sets at 2.50am.

"The other day I said to someone that maybe Sinner and Carlos could dominate the tour for maybe the next ten years, from the level that I saw the other day," Ferrero said. "Of course, other players like [Alexander] Zverev, [Dominic] Thiem, Casper [Ruud], [Stefanos] Tsitsipas, they are going to be there and are going to have opportunities to win grand-slams for sure. But with all respect, that's what I think."

Sunday's contest between Alcaraz and Ruud was the first ever grand-slam final in which both players were competing for both a maiden major title and the ATP world No1 ranking. With so much at stake, Ruud will long rue the two set points he failed to convert for a 2-1 lead. This gave Alcaraz a spark just when it looked as if he was low on energy and he came charging back for a 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (7-1), 6-3 victory.

Ruud at least has some consolation in a new career-high ranking of No2. But this was not immediately apparent on Sunday night as the 23-year-old Norwegian reflected on two painful losses in major finals, after his defeat by Nadal at the French Open in June.

"I guess I hope I don't play a Spanish player if I ever reach another slam final," Ruud said. "They know what they're doing in the slam finals."

Now he must find mental resolve to tackle Djokovic

It is one thing to win a major but quite another to dominate the sport, writes **Matthew Syed**



over the last epoch and bring in a new dawn that will, according to some, eclipse anything that has gone before.

Much of this is, to my mind, faintly ridiculous. Every few years, we have heard talk of a new generation, the so-called changing of the guard. Each time, Djokovic, Nadal and Federer have seen off the latest cohort of youngsters, continuing to dominate and retaining their near monopoly of the big titles. Over the past six years, the three men have won 20 of the past 23 grand-slam titles, a statistic that tells you everything you need to know about these "new dawns".

Of course, one day all three men will hang up their rackets, but my point is that it is premature to write them off just yet. Had Djokovic played at the US Open, he would have started as the bookies' favourite and for good reason. He has won nine of the past 15 slams in which he has played, a stunning statistic when you consider that he is 35. This is a player who has consistently defied Father Time, as well as his many critics.

As for an Alcaraz "era": he is young and mega-talented but winning a grand-slam title is a very different thing to dominating a sport. To achieve the latter, it is insufficient to possess wonderful shot-making; you also need the psychological alchemy

to sustain hunger and embrace adaptation. Federer, for instance, restructured his backhand after the rise of Nadal, an undertaking that spoke volumes of his mettle. His victory over Nadal in the Australian Open final of 2017 was one of the greatest matches in history.

Sustained success also requires what we may call the mundane art of self-management. Celebrity and money brings challenges that are quite different to facing an opponent across the net. Hangers-on, wannabe agents and personal appearances all take discipline to turn down. Greatness requires a young person not merely to excel at sport but also — to a certain extent — at life. They must shepherd their energies, reject temptations, keep their eyes on the long-term. It also helps if they have the wisdom to surround themselves with people with integrity.

Nadal is a good example of this, a man who keeps his feet firmly planted on the ground and never allows success to go to his head. At tournaments he surrounds himself with family and trusted friends and does his own shopping and cooking to retain a sense of normalcy. He knows — as other talented sportspeople have learnt to their cost — that late nights are a lot of fun but not

conducive to sporting greatness. He has shown adeptness at handling the challenges and vicissitudes of life.

The greatest players also sustain almost monastic dedication. After beating Nadal in a near six-hour battle in the final of the 2012 Australian Open, Djokovic craved chocolate, which he hadn't tasted for two years because of his diet. His coach was dispatched to find a bar. Djokovic broke off a tiny corner and let it melt on his tongue, then cast the rest of the bar aside.

"I ate only a tiny bit of chocolate because I wanted to show myself what it took to get to No1," he told me a couple of years ago. "I threw the rest of the bar away because I wanted to show myself what it would take to stay there."

My purpose, here, is not to pour cold water on Alcaraz, by the way. He is a super player and likeable person. It is merely to suggest that there is all the difference in the world between success and greatness, between winning titles and dominating eras. He has reached the summit of his first mountain and it has been a hell of a journey. I hope he will climb many more and entertain us along the way. But let's not get too carried away just yet. There is a long way to go — and Djokovic and Nadal are still hungry.



Alcaraz's victory made him the second

Raducanu's

Emma Raducanu won the first match of her "fresh start" after her disappointment at the US Open, seeing off Dayana Yastremska to reach the second round in a low-key event in Slovenia.

Raducanu fell at the first hurdle in the final grand-slam event of the year, 12 months on from her fairytale triumph in New York, and said that she was looking forward to some time out of the spotlight afterwards.



youngest man to lift the US Open singles title, but his coach insisted he was only playing at 60 per cent of his potential

'fresh start' begins with win in Slovenia

That is the case in Portoroz, a town on the Adriatic coast with a population of 3,000, where the 19-year-old faced Yastremska, of Ukraine, in a WTA 250 event, opening up a 6-2, 5-3 lead before her opponent was forced to retire.

Yastremska, the world No 89, aggravated a wrist injury on her playing hand and consulted the physio before having to quit. Raducanu, who fell from world No 11 to No 83 after the US Open, would

almost certainly have gone on to win. "Nobody wants to win by retirement," Raducanu, the top seed in Slovenia, said. "She is a ferocious competitor. I fought hard to stay in the points. I am happy to be in the next round."

Raducanu arrived last Wednesday for the tournament and enjoyed a solid period of preparation, which appeared to pay off in a composed performance. She moved comfortably on the court

and won 69 per cent of points on her first serve.

"It has been really nice to be here," she added. "I came here early and it is a great place to have a tournament. I love the sunsets and the food is super fresh."

Elizabeth Mandlik, the 22-year-old American who is the daughter of Hana Mandlikova, the four-times grand-slam champion, is a potential opponent in the second round.

Albon's respiratory failure after surgery

Formula One

Rebecca Clancy
Motor Racing Correspondent, Monza

Alex Albon was admitted to intensive care with respiratory failure after his surgery for appendicitis but is now on the way to making a full recovery, Williams have announced.

The British-Thai driver missed Sunday's Italian Grand Prix after being treated for appendicitis and while the operation on Saturday in Italy was successful, the 26-year-old suffered unexpected complications.

"Following surgery, Alex suffered with unexpected post-operative anaesthetic complications which led to respiratory failure, a known but uncommon complication. He was reintubated and transferred to intensive care for support," Williams said in a statement.

"He made excellent progress overnight and was able to be removed from mechanical ventilation yesterday morning. He has now been transferred to a general ward and is expected to return home tomorrow. There were no other complications. Alex's full focus is on recovery

and preparation ahead of the Singapore Grand Prix later this month."

Albon had taken part in Friday's practice session in Monza, finishing the day tenth quickest.

He had looked to be on course for points in Sunday's race, to add to his season's haul of four, which puts him 19th in the drivers' rankings, but fell unwell on Saturday morning and was replaced by the team's reserve driver, Nyck de Vries, for the remainder of the weekend.

The Dutch driver — who finished ninth in an impressive F1 debut to score valuable points for the team — will be on standby for the next race, the Singapore Grand Prix on October 2. The Japanese Grand Prix takes place in Suzuka a week later.

There is an unusual break of three weeks between races after the decision was taken not to replace the Russian Grand Prix, which had been scheduled for next weekend but was removed from the calendar after Russia's invasion of Ukraine earlier this year.

Albon is recovering after his time in intensive care

García faces fine if he cannot explain Wentworth absence

Golf

Tom Kershaw

Sergio García will be fined by the DP World Tour unless he provides "emergency reasons or written medical evidence" within the next three weeks to explain his withdrawal from the BMW PGA Championship.

The Spaniard failed to provide a reason for his absence after an opening round of 76 at the DP World Tour's flagship event last week and was pictured at a college football game in Texas only 24 hours later.

The DP World Tour said that "no notification" had been received from García or his management team yesterday afternoon and confirmed that the tournament director, David Garland, will apply the Tour's withdrawal policy. The regulation states: "A player is not entitled to withdraw at the conclusion of the first round... Exception: emergency reasons or medical circumstances deemed reasonable by the tournament director. A player not observing this regulation will be fined."

Although the LIV rebels all faced scrutiny for being at Wentworth, García's presence was a particular flashpoint owing to a furious outburst in the

locker room at the BMW International in Munich, where he is said to have told fellow players: "You're all f***ed".

One player at Wentworth told *The Times* that García was "extremely upset" on Thursday after a dire round left him needing 64 to make the cut. Friday's play was cancelled after the death of Queen Elizabeth II and García was already 5,000 miles away by the time the tournament restarted on Saturday.



García needed 64 to make the cut after his dire round of 76 on Thursday at Wentworth

García is expected to be in the field for LIV's event in Chicago this week, alongside Talor Gooch and Patrick Reed, who finished fourth and fifth respectively at Wentworth — where Shane Lowry declared his victory as "one for the good guys".

Lee Westwood will also tee up in Illinois but revealed that he could yet play more DP World Tour events before the rebels' legal case against their suspension is heard in February.

157lb is suicide, claims Eubank

CONTINUED FROM BACK

"I am managing my son's career, period," Eubank Sr said while on a call with Nigel Benn, Conor's father. "Irrespective of what he has said, irrespective of what he has written down and signed, it can't happen."

"I've already lost one son," added Eubank, whose son Sebastian died of a heart attack aged 29 last year.

"My son [Chris] is a warrior, he will

fight anyone. But I told him, you cannot go beneath 160, and he's gone down to 157. It cannot happen. That is called suicide. I don't do that to my son. I'm not putting him in that field. It's not happening because the weight is wrong and it puts my son in a life and death situation. He can't go beneath 160."

Surprised by the revelation, Benn responded: "Nobody held a gun to his head. He signed the contract, he was the one that said he can make 157."

Sport Rugby union

It felt slow, says Rees-Zammit after blistering 90m wonder try

Hard work over the summer paid off as Gloucester star inspired victory over Wasps, writes Will Kelleher

Louis Rees-Zammit may have scorched the Kingsholm turf with a 90-metre try that sparked Gloucester into life on Sunday, but he felt nowhere near his top pace.

"I felt quite slow," he said after the win over Wasps. "But I am glad I scored." His first try of the season started Gloucester's biggest comeback in their Gallagher Premiership history — they won 27-21, having been 21-0 down at half-time.

The game turned when Wasps knocked on while trying to find a fourth try two minutes after half-time: the Gloucester hooker, Jack Singleton, found his wing and Rees-Zammit sprinted all the way to the other end in a matter of seconds.

"It felt like a long way," Rees-Zammit said, explaining how he managed to score despite having earlier jarred his back and snapped a shoelace. "I could feel them [Wasps' defenders] on my inside and I was trying to keep my foot inside my boot as well because my boot was broken. I just ripped my lace in the first five minutes. I tried tying one of my laces together and it was all right. Thankfully there wasn't another five metres; I just got over the line."

Rees-Zammit, the Wales wing, has

been clocked by the GPS units that players wear in their shirts hitting speeds of more than 23mph in games. That makes him one of the quickest players in the world. But he is working to become even faster and spent his summer in Atlanta, Georgia, undertaking an intense training camp, honing his speed.

During August, Rees-Zammit worked with "Chip" Smith — a family friend who has trained thousands of American Football players, preparing many for the NFL Draft, as well as athletes from basketball, baseball and ice hockey.

"He has got a load of contacts and we just worked on my speed and my agility, which is really good," Rees-Zammit said. "I have never been there before but I loved it. I love America and it was kind of my family holiday. It was speed and agility, short and sharp stuff, working on my step at full pace, change of direction at full pace. The coaches out there are quite strict but they just want you to improve. That is why I went out there. It brings a new dimension to my game."

"I am trying to develop all parts of my game — my defence, my attack, my high balls, my breakdown work. Every day I can try and improve — not just show it on the training field but also translate it into the game."

Rees-Zammit was left frustrated in the first half of the Wasps match, touching the ball only twice as Gloucester sputtered. But some choice words at half-time helped his side rally. "At half-time we knew that wasn't us at all," Rees-Zammit said. "We showed nothing we did in pre-season. It was pretty poor from our

standards, our discipline was very bad, but in the second half we knew what we could do. We needed to rally all the boys and get some momentum and I think we did that. [In the] second half we put a performance together [that] we could be proud of."

Gloucester finished two points



The Wales wing showed his incredible pace to score for the first time this season

Rees Lightning

Fastest players in Premiership (top speeds in mph)

Adam Radwan (Newcastle)	23.5
Louis Rees-Zammit (Gloucester)	22.89
Jonny May (Gloucester)	22.74
Stuart Hogg (Exeter)	22.55
Charles Piutau (Bristol)	22.43
Paolo Odugwu (Wasps)	22.41
Joe Cokanasiga (Bath)	22.36

Source: ruk.co.uk outside the top four last season, in fifth, so are determined to break into the play-offs for the first time since 2019 this term. They have also been brought together by the shocking news that their former lock, Ed Slater, has been diagnosed with motor neurone disease, aged only 34.

"Everyone is so tight and [we] all support Ed," Rees-Zammit said. "It is a horrible time for him but we are all going through it with him. Whatever he needs, we are here for him. That, and not getting into the top four, has brought us together. We've had a big start to the season, five points, and we just want to carry on."

Christian Wade turned down offers from the Gallagher Premiership, United States, South Africa and Japan to sign for French side Racing 92 until the end of the season, completing his return to rugby. The one-cap England wing, 31, had spent the past four years trying to break into the NFL.

Worcester players told sale is close

Alex Lowe Rugby Correspondent

The owners of Worcester Warriors are believed to have agreed a deal to sell the club. Terms were being discussed last night but players and staff have been told the takeover would secure the club's immediate and long-term future.

The new investors, who have not been identified, will have to take on debts of at least £25 million, cover all the unpaid salaries from past month, and ensure Sunday's game against Exeter Chiefs can go ahead.

The deal is subject to approval from the RFU, which is under pressure to scrutinise owners in more detail. Some Worcester staff are understood to still be wary, given the number of false dawns. If given the green light, the sale would save Worcester from the brink of extinction and keep them out of administration, which would result in automatic relegation. The deal would also end the interest of a consortium led by Jim O'Toole, the club's former chief executive.

Jason Whittingham and Colin Goldring, the co-owners, have been in negotiations with these new investors since last week. The offer tabled on Sunday morning was close to falling through but the owners are believed to have lowered their demands to reach a deal.

There was widespread pessimism around the league that Worcester could survive this crisis. The club face a winding-up court appearance on October 6, when HM Revenue & Customs will demand a tax payment of £6 million.

Worcester took out a government loan during the pandemic, estimated at between £15-18 million, and they owe millions more to creditors, agents and a rival club. The club have been late paying their players for three months and staff who received 65 per cent of their August pay are still awaiting the balance. Some have received nothing.

Before news of this deal, there had been serious doubts about whether Worcester would have the funds to stage the Exeter game, making insolvency inevitable. That would have triggered a suspension from the league and in effect signalled the end of the club.

Scoreboards and other results

Cricket

LV= Insurance County Championship

Division One

Yorkshire v Essex

Headingley (first day of four; Essex won toss): Yorkshire have scored 134 all out

Yorkshire: First Innings

Alyth c Rossington b Porter 13

F J Bean c Rossington b S J Cook 0

G C H Hill c Rossington b S J Cook 36

T Kohler-Cadmore c Lawrence b S J Cook 5

W A R Fraine b Snater 0

*† J A Tattersall b Snater 32

M L Revis c Rossington b Snater 2

J A Thompson c A N Cook b Allison 5

B O Coad b Allison 17

S A Patterson not out 10

J W Shutt lbw b Porter 4

Extras (lb 6nb 4) 10

Total (52.2 overs) 134

Fall of wickets 1-4, 2-22, 3-55, 4-56, 5-64, 6-87, 7-100, 8-100, 9-123.

Bowling: Porter 13.2-3-42; Cook 15.7-31; Allison 11.5-15-2; Snater 12-6-39; Critchley 1-0-1.

Essex N L J Browne, A N Cook, *T Westley, D W Lawrence, M J J Critchley, F I N Khushi, T A M Rossington, S Snater, B M J Allison, S J Cook, J A Porter.

Umpires R J Bailey and R A White

Northamptonshire v Surrey

Northampton (first day of four; Surrey won toss): Northamptonshire have scored 249 for four

Northamptonshire: First Innings

E N Gay c Curran b Atkinson 145

*W A Young c Patel b Roach 20

L A Procter c Steel b Roach 2

J J Cobb c Smith b Worrall 1

R I Keogh not out 75

*T R Vasconcelos not out 0

Extras (lb 4nb 2) 6

Total (4 wkt, 67.2 overs) 249

S A Zaib, J J G Sales, L B Williams, B W Sanderson and C J White to bat.

Fall of wickets 1-77, 2-91, 3-94, 4-249.

Bowling: Roach 15.1-70-2; Worrall 16.4-53-1; Clark 15.2-42-0; Curran 11.2-39-0; Atkinson 6.2-0-22; Steel 4.1-19-0.

Surrey *R J Burns, S P Patel, H M Amla, B B A Geddes, T J L Smith, C T Steel, J Clark, T K Curran, A P A Atkinson, K A J Roach, D J Worrall.

Umpires G D Lloyd and P J Hartley

Warwickshire v Somerset

Edgbaston (first day of four; Somerset won toss): Somerset have scored 182 for eight

Somerset: First Innings

T A Lammonby c Burgess b Yadav 24

J I ul-Haq c Burgess b Siraj 5

*T B Abel b Hannan-Dalby 1

G A Bartlett c Burgess b Siraj 12

L P Goldsworthy lbw b Brookes 9

*† J E K Rew lbw b Siraj 0

L Gregory not out 60

J D Libby not out 42

Extras (lb 5nb 4) 9

Total (no wkt, 30 overs) 87

A Ali, *B L D'Olivera, J Haynes, E G Barnard, T G H Rodenick, J Leach, J C Tongue, D Y Pennington and B J Gibson to bat.

Bowling: Leach 13.3-37-4; Gibbons 13.5-52-3; Pennington 14.2-6-45-2; Tongue 8.2-21-0; Barnard 10.1-51-0; D'Olivera 10.5-0-5.

Worcestershire: First Innings

E J Pollock not out 36

J D Libby not out 42

Extras (lb 5nb 4) 9

Total (4 wkt, 30 overs) 220

Fall of wickets 1-4, 2-34, 3-52, 4-59, 5-69, 6-99, 7-106, 8-193, 9-213.

Bowling: Leach 12.3-37-4; Gibbons 13.5-52-3; Pennington 14.2-6-45-2; Tongue 8.2-21-0; Barnard 10.1-51-0; D'Olivera 10.5-0-5.

Gloucester v Somerset

Eddington (first day of four; Gloucester won toss): Gloucester have scored 182 for eight

Gloucester: First Innings

T A Lammonby c Burgess b Yadav 24

J I ul-Haq c Burgess b Siraj 5

*T B Abel b Hannan-Dalby 1

G A Bartlett c Burgess b Siraj 12

L P Goldsworthy lbw b Brookes 9

*† J E K Rew lbw b Siraj 0

L Gregory not out 60

J D Libby not out 42

Extras (lb 5nb 4) 9

Total (8 wkt, 56 overs) 182

Fall of wickets 1-12, 2-17, 3-46, 4-46, 5-46, 6-66, 7-82, 8-140.

Bowling: Hannan-Dalby 14.5-43-1; Siraj 19.5-54-4; Yadav 14.2-42-1; Brookes 8.0-17-2; Briggs 10.1-18-0.

Warwickshire A L Davies, D P Sibley, R M Yates, S R Hain, *W M H Rhodes, J Yadav, M G K Burgess, D R Briggs, H J H Brookes, M Siraj, O J Hannan-Dalby.

Umpires N A Mallender and J D Middlebrook

Division Two

Sussex v Worcestershire

Hove (first day of four; Sussex won toss): Worcestershire, with ten first-innings wickets in hand, trail Sussex by 133 runs

Sussex: First Innings

A G H Orr b Leach 1

*T J Haines b Gibbons 2

T P Alsop lbw b Leach 0

T G R Clark lbw b Leach 8

*† J Carter c Roderick b Pennington 1

F Hudson-Pritchard c Roderick b Pennington 51

J M Coles c Ali b Gibbons 54

F Ashraf c Haynes b Leach 2

J J Carson run out 58

H T Crocombe c Pennington b Gibbons 16

B J Currie not out 4

Extras (lb 9nb 14) 23

Total (59.2 overs) 220

Fall of wickets 1-4, 2-34, 3-52, 4-59, 5-69, 6-99, 7-106, 8-193, 9-213.

Bowling: Leach 13.3-37-4; Gibbons 13.5-52-3; Pennington 14.2-6-45-2; Tongue 8.2-21-0; Barnard 10.1-51-0; D'Olivera 10.5-0-5.

Glamorgan: First Innings

*D L Lloyd b Roland-Jones 5

E J Byrom c Simpson b Murtagh 4

S Gill b Roland-Jones 22

S A Northeast c Simpson b Murtagh 17

K S Carlson c Simpson b Murtagh 36

W T Root c Simpson b Higgins 11

*† C Cooke b Bamber 52

J A Harris lbw b Higgins 13

T van der Gugten not out 9

A Y Patel c Simpson b Higgins 36

M G Hogan c Roland-Jones b Higgins 2

Extras (lb 3nb 4) 7

Total (54.1 overs) 214

Fall of wickets 1-5, 2-3, 9-48, 4-48, 5-70, 6-129, 7-165, 8-165, 9-208.

Bowling: Murtagh 12.1-58-3; Roland-Jones 16.1-50-2; Higgins 15.1-2-59-4; Bamber 11-14-4.

Middlesex: First

Henry Winter

Chief Football Writer



Southgate's side will strike right mood

Gareth Southgate played the last time England mourned a royal at Wembley, starting the emotional World Cup qualifier against Moldova in 1997 when candles were lit and tears shed ten days after Princess Diana died.

Southgate has the experience, and most importantly the emotional intelligence, to make sure England deliver the perfect dignified response when returning to action shortly after the Queen's funeral. As football is the national game — and particularly as England are the national team and obsession, and probably only the royal family generate more interest — it is vital England get their return right. With Southgate they undoubtedly will.

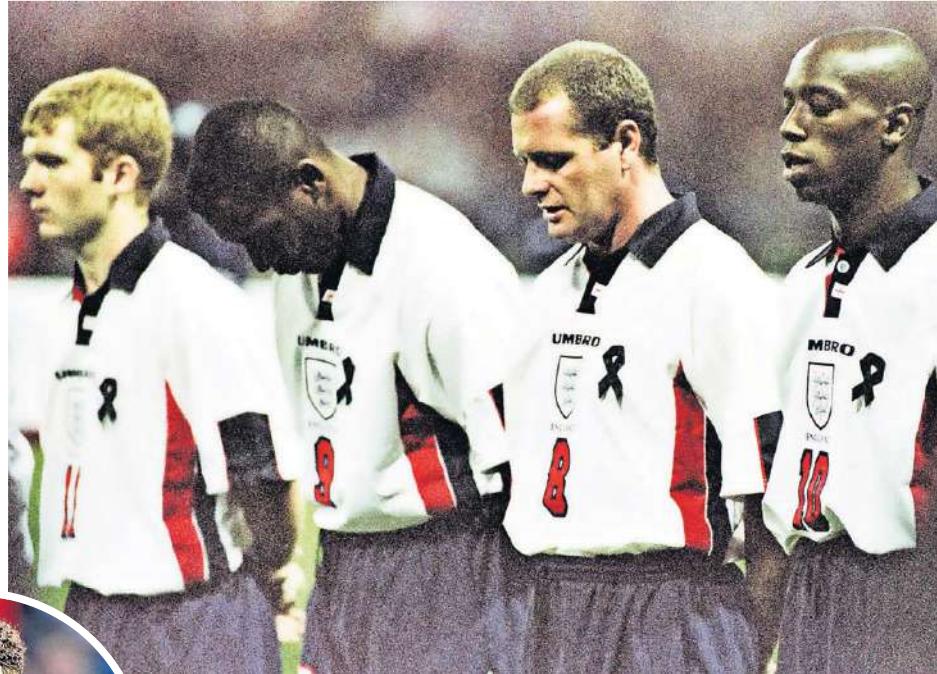
Whatever we may think of his in-game management at times, his failure to react tactically to a game's turning tide at defining moments of the 2018 World Cup and Euro 2020, Southgate invariably sets the most pertinent mood. He picks good characters and espouses good principles.

Southgate will now finalise his squad before Thursday's announcement at 2pm, although there will be no media conference "out of deep respect for the period of national mourning ahead of the funeral of our patron, Her Majesty the Queen, on Monday, September 19," the FA said. Southgate is contemplating what would be deserved recalls for Eric Dier, Marcus Rashford and Jadon Sancho, but his most significant selection involves getting the right tone. It's about respect for the late Queen, and also respect for her grandson, the president of the FA, Prince William, who is such an ardent supporter of the national team and hugely respected and liked by the players.

As at Wembley 25 years ago, Southgate, the FA and the players (then under Glenn Hoddle's charge) will work to ensure a dignified occasion, starting with black armbands against Italy in Milan on September 23, and particularly the poignant — actually rather appropriate — match at the national stadium, against Germany on September 26.

This is a fixture that is indelibly associated with Queen Elizabeth II, recalling the most epic event in English sporting history when she presented the World Cup to Bobby Moore after the victory over West Germany in 1966. With deep respect to all the other many great pursuits in this sport-obsessed land, nothing compares to that golden moment at Wembley. For that memory alone England have to get their response right over the coming fortnight.

The Queen was not particularly enamoured with football, certainly not in comparison with her love of horse racing, but she understood its place in the hearts of so many of her subjects. Southgate and his players were touched by her letter to them on the eve of last summer's Euro



From left: Paul Scholes, Ferdinand, Gascoigne and Ian Wright bow their heads out of respect for Princess Diana; inset, Bellingham will get a chance to impress next week



2020 final, in which she spoke of how "fortunate" she was to hand the Jules Rimet Trophy, still gleaming, to Moore, and praised the "spirit, commitment and pride" of Southgate's players in reaching this final.

Just as the football authorities were understandably so mindful of the game's image that they postponed the weekend's games through fear of any disrespectful comments or chants becoming front-page news, as well as policing issues, the FA, in particular, knows it now has to ensure the appropriate tone.

So much in modern sport, modern life, is about image management, and the FA knows it would be a bad look if players reported to St George's Park on the eve of Monday's funeral, or even the day itself. England players should not be turning up for training until Tuesday when, it is understood, they will speak from 3pm. They should report for duty having watched the funeral, as Les Ferdinand confirmed the players all did in 1997, with the desperately moving images of Diana's cortège and service at Westminster Abbey.

It's about respect. When it comes to national duty, as we occasionally loosely refer to sporting service, nobody can compete with the Queen's 70 years of dedication. After the Great North Run on Sunday, I drove up to Edinburgh to see the deep love in which the late, mourned monarch was held, as if any confirmation were needed.

Without making this too personal, my architect father was on the Royal Fine Art

Commission and helped to advise the Queen on modern buildings and, from what I recall, always spoke so respectfully of her interest, knowledge and humour. Those fortunate enough to encounter her revered her, as did the hundreds of millions who hadn't met her.

As recognised in Edinburgh — by hushed crowds on Princes Street, road closures on the Royal Mile, grieving echoed in the weeping skies — this is a seismic event in history, and that is why the authorities were right to pause elite football. Of course the decision to stop grassroots and youth football was ill considered and damaging. For health reasons, physical and mental, children need this workout, especially post-pandemic.

But the elite, the image-makers? A brief, respectful hiatus, especially with policing issues, makes sense. And so back to England. It's about respect to the Queen. England players shouldn't pile out of chauffeur-driven cars, smiling, back into St George's Park, even training, on the day of the funeral. As the FA stopped football in the country over the weekend, it would look hypocritical if it then hurried back its most beloved and money-spinning XI.

So wait, reflect, and consider the lessons of the past, most obviously that Diana tribute game. Hoddle put plenty of thought into who best should be captain, with Alan Shearer, Tony Adams and Teddy Sheringham injured and Paul Ince suspended. Hoddle wanted a universally respected, experienced international, somebody so popular he transcended club rivalries. It was about capturing the national mood.

David Seaman suited "the occasion", Hoddle noted. Those of us at Bisham Abbey training that week spoke to the likeable, uncomplicated Arsenal goalkeeper, and he talked powerfully of going to lay flowers at Kensington Palace for Diana and then heading on to sign the book of condolence at Harrods (very football).

Seaman then led England out on that affecting evening at Wembley. A request was put in by the FA to Elton John's management for the singer to perform his *Goodbye England's Rose* elegy to Diana in person, but Watford's finest was in New York. A newspaper campaigned for every match-goer to be given a lit candle during the playing of the musician's reworking of *Candle in the Wind*, but health and safety understandably snuffed out that idea. But the fans were magnificent. Many lit candles anyway.

Of the ubiquitous St George's flags that night, some had "We love you Diana" on them, and other placards mourned "Goodbye England's Rose". Paul Gascoigne, wearing a black ribbon over his heart, pointed to the heavens after scoring. Football got the tone right.

And that's how it goes, and will go. Just as the Manchester United and West Ham United fans demonstrated on Thursday, the expressions of respect will be profound at Wembley. Others elsewhere will make their political, historical or personal points, but the majority, especially at Wembley against Germany, will be respectful. When it comes to moments of mourning, nothing compares to football's response.

It seems almost trivial debating selection issues. Amid all the wreathing of sadness and imperative for respect, it still needs appreciating how vital these matches are for Southgate. England are three playing hours away from their first test in Qatar, against Iran on November 21, and will have minimal preparation time out there, probably only four proper sessions.

Only four players are guaranteed starters: Jordan Pickford, Declan Rice, Raheem Sterling and Harry Kane. Four more are pretty much nailed-on: John Stones, Harry Maguire, Luke Shaw and Mason Mount. But Jude Bellingham deserves to start and these two games in Milan and at Wembley provide a timely opportunity to bed him into midfield alongside Rice. Then it's Phil Foden or Bukayo Saka up front and the eternal conundrum at right back, and that partially depends on whether Southgate goes 3-4-3/3-5-2 or 4-3-3.

Of the most pressing issues, Dier most recently represented England 22 months ago. He fell out of form and favour. But he must be included, for his form with Tottenham Hotspur, his experience and threat at set pieces. Also welcome is Sancho's revival under Erik ten Hag, and especially Rashford being happy again after a difficult period, back assisting and scoring. Ivan Toney merits consideration, after five Premier League goals for Brentford. But if anyone deserves celebrating for their impact on side and society, a role model who transcends his sport, it is Rashford. And that is partly what these emotional England games will be about.

Premier League to adopt semi-automated offside next season

Martyn Ziegler Chief Sports Reporter

The Premier League is expected to introduce semi-automated offside next season after their successful use in the Champions League.

Although the 20 clubs are expected to wait until after the World Cup to vote on the system, it is already seen as a huge improvement on the existing one because it sends an immediate alert to

the video assistant referee when a player is offside.

At the moment lines are drawn manually by a VAR technician, which can lead to delays, but the new system uses tracking technology and artificial intelligence for instantaneous decisions.

Furthermore, nearly half of the 20 clubs — those in the Champions League this season plus Arsenal, Manchester United, Brighton & Hove

Albion, Southampton and Nottingham Forest — already have the basic Hawk-Eye infrastructure in place. English clubs have also been involved in trials from the earliest stage.

The technology uses dedicated and broadcast cameras around the stadium to track the exact positions of players and the ball, with artificial intelligence determining if an attacker is offside and sending an alert to the VAR.

The new system should help to avoid incidents such as the one in the Juventus v Salernitana match in Italy on Sunday, where the game was about to kick off again several minutes after a late winner had been scored — only for a VAR to intervene and rule it out.

One source with knowledge of the Hawk-Eye system being used by Uefa said: "The alerts are instantaneous so as soon as the VAR has verified it the deci-

sion is made. We are seeing that under the semi-automated system decisions are being made within the time of natural stoppages for celebrations after a goal rather than players waiting."

The system was used in the background for the Champions League last season. It will also be used by Fifa at the World Cup in Qatar.

Other domestic leagues are looking closely at adopting the system.

Back to basics for Klopp's men after Napoli nightmare

Paul Joyce



Northern Football Correspondent

The past week has been crammed with analysis as Liverpool lick their wounds.

Jürgen Klopp and his players have spent time in the classroom, as well as on the training pitch, picking apart reruns of their harrowing defeat in Naples, and none of it has made for pretty viewing.

"I have had a lot of thoughts, meeting with the players," the Liverpool manager said. "I watched the game back plenty of times and it was a real horror show.

"We showed the boys the situations. They knew, but seeing it again makes it really obvious. It was the worst game we played since I came here."

The recovery must start against Ajax tonight.

That Klopp found himself unable to salvage any positives from that video nasty served to highlight the depths to which Liverpool plunged in the Stadio Diego Armando Maradona on Wednesday when slumping to a 4-1 defeat.

It annoyed him that his team played as individuals, but perhaps he should not have been shocked. After all, he had previously called out his side after the draw with Fulham on the opening weekend of the Premier League season and then after the defeat by Manchester United.

The inquest preceding what is now a crucial Champions League fixture at Anfield appears to have been particularly ruthless then, with some players spoken to one-to-one, albeit in an attempt to rouse rather than ridicule.

"It was not too necessary to say things but I did anyway: 'Why would you do that? Why would we do that?'"

Klopp said. "We brought ourselves into the situation. When James Milner arrives late into challenges then you know something is wrong. We had obvious football problems and what led to these problems is a misjudgment of these situations.

"We are not over the moon about our season, we don't play exceptional football. It looked like everyone wanted to sort the problem by himself.

"[There were] four or five days of absolute truths. We didn't hide anything. But not to knock the players down, just to make sure where we are now is the starting point and to make sure we sort the problems together on the pitch.

"Step by step. Big problems you don't solve like this." There was a click of his fingers for emphasis.

Klopp described the task of recalibrating the club as unwanted but, at the same time, "interesting" and the memory of his introductory press conference seven years ago next month sprung to mind as he spoke.

On that October day, the German outlined part of his mantra as being a desire to "conquer the ball. Yes? Each f***ing time".

Clearly, injuries have affected Liverpool, and the left back Andrew Robertson will be missing until after the international break with a knee problem, but it also seems that Klopp feels an edge has been lost somewhere since the ultimately unsuccessful Quadruple bid of last season.

There were, therefore, no grandiose promises. He purposely refrained from going along with the idea that Ajax should expect a storm to be unleashed upon them and instead targeted smaller goals such as the thrill of winning tackles again to establish the firm foundations that he believes are needed to progress.

"In football, you solve all individual problems as a team," Klopp said. "You have to follow a common idea again

and everything we did since I was here, what my teams do in football, is based on a really solid, if not nearly perfect, defending. That is where it all starts and that is what we have to work on. That's what we did.

"How can you get confidence in a football game? By winning challenges. We have to realise it all starts with defending and we have got to give ourselves a chance to celebrate winning a challenge again. It is a long time since we have spoken about these kinds of things.

"If you can do that you can get some kind of momentum and if you have momentum you can play football. There is no good game when a team plays flawlessly offensively like that and defensively were just a shambles. But there are games where teams defend well and do not play well offensively.

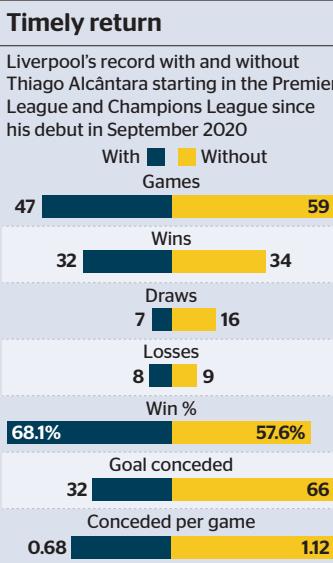
"It is all based on real defending and that is what we have to do and what we have to show and I am pretty sure our people will help us with that."

Kostas Tsimikas should replace Robertson, while Joël Matip will also come back into the centre of defence to replace Joe Gomez, who was taken off at half-time against Napoli.

Ajax, who have won their past seven matches, scoring 25 goals in the process, were bright and inventive in dispatching Rangers 4-0 last week and have displayed their own capacity to rebuild after the loss of Erik ten Hag, Antony and Lisandro Martínez to Manchester United.

Klopp's mood was not entirely downbeat. Having stewed on matters for the past six days, he smiled when asked by a Dutch journalist if he was concerned at all that the break in the Premier League season due to the death of Queen Elizabeth II might fracture their rhythm.

"Which rhythm?" Klopp said. "We had no rhythm. Did you watch our game? Losing this rhythm would be really cool."



Liverpool
v Ajax

Anfield
Kick-off: Tonight, 8pm
TV: BT Sport 2
Radio: BBC 5 Live

The return of
Alcántara from
injury provides
a big boost for
Klopp's team

'We can't pay the wages of Premier League clubs: we have to be creative'

Bayern Munich's Hasan Salihamidzic tells James Gheerbrant how Germans can compete with top flight's wealth

In 1992, Hasan Salihamidzic arrived in Germany with 800 Deutschmarks in his trouser pocket, the dream of making it as a professional footballer, and a small book full of the few German phrases he knew — one of which, "Ich möchte eine Limonade," became

the first words he uttered in his new homeland. Three decades after he ordered that first soft drink, he is one of the most powerful men in European football, charged with assembling a squad that plays sparkling, champagne football.

Salihamidzic has been the sporting director of Bayern Munich since 2017. He was a player in that great Bayern team of the late 1990s and early 2000s, along with the likes of Oliver Kahn and Stefan Effenberg, which lost the 1999 Champions League final in the dying seconds before winning it two years later. His post-playing career path has been unusual: he was a TV pundit, then he co-founded a

real-estate business before becoming Bayern's club ambassador; a year later he assumed his present role, which puts him in charge of Bayern's recruitment and the club's strategy.

"You have to set the agenda in terms of how the team is constructed," Salihamidzic says, as we sit in his office overlooking the Bayern training ground. "I think the most important thing is to have a plan and not to shrink from decisions.

"In terms of what you see running round beneath where we're sitting, I think you can see that we're not only concerned with the finding of top players, but also the talents, the youth, which has gradually come on;

now some of them are in the first team. So I think we're in a good place."

Salihamidzic has overseen a summer of change. Bayern's usual serene equilibrium was disturbed by the desire to leave of Robert Lewandowski, their best player, who joined Barcelona. They will come face to face with their former talisman when Bayern face Barcelona in the Champions League tonight.

His loss has left a considerable hole, and indeed Bayern have only won three and drawn three of their first six

Bundesliga games. But Salihamidzic seized the opportunity to evolve Bayern's squad. In the summer window, they added Sadio Mané from Liverpool, Matthijs de Ligt of Juventus, the Ajax pair of Ryan Gravenberch and Noussair Mazraoui, and Rennes' highly rated 17-year-old Mathys Tel (who on Saturday became Bayern's youngest ever goalscorer), while making a net spend of only £30 million.

"We wanted to change a lot," Salihamidzic says, citing the disappointing elimination in the quarter-finals of the Champions League against Villarreal in April. "It was obvious that Lewy was thinking about a move, but without having top replacements available, we wouldn't have agreed [to let him go]. But we had many options, we tried to make one happen, and that allowed us to let him go. The fact that it was Sadio... it couldn't have worked out any better for us."

Bayern
Munich v
Barcelona

Allianz Arena
Kick-off: Tonight, 8pm
TV: BT Sport 5





Kudus the Ajax danger man

Mohammed Kudus always intended to have Liverpool in his sights this season (Paul Joyce writes).

The Ghana attacker will arrive at Anfield as an integral part of Ajax's armoury, having scored four goals in his past three matches, including a sumptuous strike in last week's group A victory over Rangers.

Yet Kudus, who has been playing as a No 9, had initially hoped to be performing for Everton, with Frank Lampard's side believing they had a deal for the 22-year-old tied up in August. There was an expectation among some officials at Goodison Park that Kudus would travel from Amsterdam for a medical on the weekend of August 20 to complete a loan move, with a view to that becoming a permanent deal.

Ajax subsequently blocked the interest, unwilling to let another player leave with Manchester United in the throes of completing an £85 million deal for Antony to follow the £57 million capture of Lisandro Martinez.

Kudus, below, reportedly refused to train in an attempt to force through a move to Merseyside, but Ajax stubbornly refused to relent.

The impact of Kudus in recent games – he scored twice in the 5-0 win over Heerenveen on Saturday – means his value has now soared.

"He is in a good shape," Alfred Schreuder, the Ajax coach, said. He added that he had watched United's victory over Liverpool last month in preparation for the tie.

"In the pre-season, he was good. We tried him also as a No 9 and he did very well. I had a few conversations and I am very happy he is still our player."

It has taken longer than Kudus would have liked but the Dutch side are now tapping into the potential of a player whose time at the club had been scarred by injury, even though his talent has rarely been doubted.



Conte set to rotate his strikers as new arrivals eclipse Son

Gary Jacob

Several months ago, when Son Heung-min lifted the Golden Boot, it would have been unthinkable that he might be left out by Tottenham Hotspur – but times are changing, and Antonio Conte has said that his players have to start learning to swallow disappointment.

Conte reasoned that his side have got used to being in the comfort zone and that has played a part in the club not delivering silverware since 2008. He also now has the luxury of being able to rotate four international forwards.

Son has not been firing on all cylinders and is without a goal from 19 shots in seven matches this season. He looked short of confidence when Tottenham laboured against Marseille in the opening group D game last week, until the away side were reduced to ten men. Dejan Kulusevski came on and made an impact before Richarlison scored twice to seal a 2-0 win, only days after the Brazil forward had impressed when starting against Fulham.

Conte once declared that he would be crazy to leave out Son and that Harry Kane was undroppable, acknowledging their telepathy, ability and exploits in recent seasons.

But he has to decide whether to persevere with Son and hope his luck turns, or whether to start Kulusevski and Richarlison alongside Kane in their second Champions League group match, away to Sporting Lisbon tonight.

"The old habit was that the players were used to playing in every game, and in this situation you don't have great possibilities to win," Conte said.

"When you try to build something important you have to change old habits, otherwise it means you don't want to have ambition. For this reason the players have to accept the rotation, especially up front."

"It's very difficult to drop one, but I have to make the best decision for players and team. I'm here to try to change the old habit."

Son has admitted that he would be more worried about his drought if he was not getting opportunities and is

confident that one goal will open the floodgates – he has tended to score in streaks. He has good pace, which he showed in forcing Marseille's Chancel Mbemba to dive in and earn a red card and turn the game in Tottenham's favour. Kulusevski has had a rest, not starting the past two matches, and was electric when he came on against Marseille. He has a goal and two assists in the league this season, adding to the 13 goals he played a part in last season.

Conte had decided to make changes for the postponed match away to Manchester City on Saturday and now has had to rethink. "Sometimes it's better to rest and don't start a game, to come in and play only 20 or 30 minutes and then play the following games," he said. "Big clubs have a deep squad. It's good for a coach to have these options."

Conte has had other things on his mind, revealing that he visited Buckingham Palace on Friday to pay his respects after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. "It was very difficult to believe she was dead, because in your mind you think that the Queen was immortal," he said. "To live this situation in London I will keep this in my heart, in my mind for the rest of my life."

Sporting are in seventh place in the Portuguese top tier and Marcus Edwards, the former Tottenham wing-back, who joined them from Vitória de Guimarães this summer, opened the scoring when they beat Eintracht Frankfurt 3-0 in their first group game last week. Rúben Amorim, the Sporting coach, said Edwards took time to adjust to the Portuguese lifestyle. "Marcus is very talented, he's one of the best players in playing between the lines," Amorim said. "He has all of the talent to get into the English national team."

Sporting Lisbon (probable; 3-4-3) A Adán – R Esgaio, G Inácio, S Coates – M Reis, M Ugarte, H Morita, P Porro – N Santos, F Trincão, M Edwards.

Tottenham Hotspur (possible; 3-4-3) H Lloris – C Romero, E Dier, C Lenglet – Emerson, P-E Hojbjerg, R Bentancur, I Perisic – Son Heung-min, H Kane, Richarlison.

Referee S Jovanović (Serbia).



Bayern and Salihamedzic, far right, signed Mané in a busy summer window

Mané's absence is being felt at Anfield and Salihamedzic's words will not ease the sting. "All the boys we brought in more or less said, 'I want only Bayern' in those first meetings," he says. "Somebody like Sadio looks at clubs and thinks, 'I've had six amazing years at Liverpool, what's next?' He will choose his next move carefully. I know why he chose us, he said so: because he feels that there's

so much quality and [the right] mentality."

It's not just about seducing and buying players though. Throughout their recent history, Bayern have rarely been known as a selling club – it was almost seen as beneath them. But the financial hardship of the Covid-induced "ghost season" and the economic dominance of the Premier League forced a strategic rethink.

Kahn, now the club's chief executive, spoke of a "landslide-like imbalance" with the English top flight and the need to "take clever action in the market". It fell to Salihamedzic to do so. This year Bayern have raised nearly £100 million from sales, including Lewandowski and also more developmental players such as Marc Roca, Chris Richards and Omar Richards, who joined Leeds United, Crystal Palace and Nottingham Forest respectively; the young centre back Tangy Nianzou went to Sevilla and the midfielder Michael Cuisance to Venezia.

"We didn't pretend not to have any money, it was the truth," Salihamedzic says. "Our [annual] income was down €120 million [£103 million] because of an empty Allianz Arena. We tried to get in players who didn't pose a financial risk but made it possible to generate sales afterwards. A player like Marc Roca might not have made it but he's nevertheless a good player who's a starter for Leeds United [now]."

Salihamedzic believes the most important qualities for a sporting

director are the abilities to remain calm and not shrink from decisions. More than most, he can draw on a healthy sense of perspective.

Salihamedzic was 15 when the Bosnian war broke out in his homeland: as the conflict drew closer to his hometown of Jablanica, an unexploded shell struck the corridor of the apartment block where his family lived. His father, a policeman, handed him a Kalashnikov and a pistol and told him that when the defensive front broke, he was to grab his mother and sister and drive them to safety. Eventually, a different plan was hatched. He was smuggled through several Croatian checkpoints to Hamburg, where he wept every day for the first three months. Waking every day at 6am to do sprints and dribbles on a local playing ground, he made it into Hamburg's youth squad and, three years later, the senior team, before moving to Bayern, where he won six Bundesliga titles.

What does Salihamedzic make of the financial might of the Premier League? This summer, the English

top-flight clubs had a total net spend of £11.9 billion; the Bundesliga was £39 million. Between them, Chelsea and Manchester United spent more than the entire German top flight.

"It's a big disadvantage for us if the 18th team in the Premier League makes more money from their domestic TV rights than we do," Salihamedzic says. "The Premier League's TV rights are incredible. We can't pay the same wages as the top Premier League clubs but we have to be creative and put together a squad that makes us attractive to others."

Salihamedzic refuses to criticise Barcelona's extraordinary summer of lever-pulling, but it's clear that Bayern won't be following suit on his watch.

"We're not a club that will do crazy things," he says. "In the past 20 years, the club has always been profitable. It's our mission to continue that. It doesn't mean we won't buy an expensive player. But we won't risk financial disaster doing so."

It feels like an apt mantra for a man who came to Germany with only a few banknotes stuffed in his pocket.

I was scared to death standing with wolves, says Costa after sealing move

Charlotte Duncker

Wolverhampton Wanderers have confirmed the signing of Diego Costa on a one-year deal.

The 33-year-old's surprise return to the Premier League was completed on Thursday after he passed his medical, but the club delayed making the announcement because of the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

The striker's presentation was accompanied by a video that showed him walking a pack of wolves by a chain. In his interview for the club website, Costa admitted: "I was scared to death. Holding that chain I kept thinking, 'What if this wolf thinks about jumping on top of me?' and then the three of them did.

"Because the lady training them kept calling them, asked them to move around a little and the dog, the wolves didn't do a single thing. And I thought, 'If they're not doing anything with the trainer, if they come'... when they came and smelled my foot, I knew I was done

Premier League quality

Only two players had a better ratio for goals and assists per game than Diego Costa during his time at Chelsea between 2014 and 2017

	Games	Goals	Assists	G/Assists per game
S Agüero	94	70	13	0.88
H Kane	102	75	12	0.85
D Costa	89	52	16	0.76
A Sánchez	103	53	22	0.73
R Lukaku	110	53	17	0.64
J Vardy	105	42	19	0.58
O Giroud	94	42	12	0.57

for. I was a little scared then. It was a cool experience but not a very comfortable one. I have five dogs, but they're not wolves."

Costa, who has not played professionally since January when he terminated his contract at the Brazilian side Atletico Mineiro, is registered to be able to play against Manchester City on Saturday, should the game go ahead. A decision has yet to be made on whether he is fit enough.

It may have been nearly five years since Costa left the Premier League but he proved during his 3½ years at Stamford Bridge that he had the pedigree to succeed in English football by helping Chelsea to win two league titles. The former Spain international



Costa's rather unusual Wolves presentation, main, and his "biting" incident with Barry six years ago, right



scored 59 goals in 120 appearances for Chelsea and he also registered 83 in 216 matches for Atletico Madrid.

Those who remember his first spell in the Premier League will recall the little chips over the goalkeeper, strikes from the edge of the area, first-time finishes and powerful efforts at the near post. His strength and movement combined with his clinical finishing made him impossible to defend against at times, and the present crop of Premier League defenders will be hoping that since his departure in late 2017 he has lost a little bit of his edge. His scoring record dropped off at Mineiro but, during an injury-plagued period, he still managed five goals in 19 appearances.

The risk with his signing is because of his tempestuous personality. Over the years Costa has managed to fall out with managers, team-mates, opposition players and fans.

There was the "biting" incident with Gareth Barry in 2016, when the striker was shown a red card after the two players squared up to each other and Costa appeared to try to bite the Everton midfielder. Both players later denied a bite had happened, but he was banned for three matches and dropped from the Spain national team.

He was branded "a cheat" by his own Chelsea team-mate Kurt Zouma, who then backtracked, after a clash with Arsenal's Gabriel Paulista and there were further investigations into stamping and elbowing during a Premier League career littered with skirmishes, tackles and heated exchanges. And things have not really quietened down as the years have gone by. Last October he was named in an alleged betting scandal in Brazil, with police searching his home. Costa denies any wrongdoing.

Ecuador wait on World Cup expulsion call

Martyn Ziegler Chief Sports Reporter

Fifa's appeals committee will rule on whether Ecuador will keep their World Cup place on Thursday after a dispute over the eligibility of a player.

Chile, who failed to qualify, have claimed that the defender Byron Castillo is ineligible because he was born in Colombia, had a false passport and is three years older than stated on the document. Fifa has already rejected their claim once but Chile have appealed and they could qualify instead if Ecuador are expelled.

Ecuador's defence is that Castillo was an illegal immigrant who came to the country as a minor but has lived there for more than long enough to qualify via residency. A government investigation in 2018 uncovered 75 youth players who had been given false documents, and Castillo testified to investigators then that he was born in Colombia in 1995, rather than 1998. The transcript of his interview is part of Chile's case.



Castillo said he had been born in Colombia in 1995

The Ecuadorean FA's vice-president, Carlos Manzur, said in March 2021 that it would not pick Castillo until the matter was settled, and a month later an Ecuadorean court provided Castillo with an identification document that led to him making his debut for the national team.

He has since played in eight matches for Ecuador, including a 2-0 victory against Chile in November that in effect ended their hopes of qualification.

Even if Fifa's appeals committee finds against Ecuador, it is not clear that Chile would take their place, as Peru finished next in the qualification table. However, if only the matches that Castillo played in are deemed void, then Chile could qualify.

Meanwhile, Chelsea's Hakim Ziyech has come out of international retirement and could play for Morocco in the World Cup after being recalled for two friendlies this month. The midfielder had been in dispute with Vahid Halilhodzic, the former Morocco head coach.

Robert Page will be Wales manager for the Euro 2024 and 2026 World Cup qualifying campaigns after signing a new four-year contract.

Klopp: I expect Liverpool fans to show respect for the Queen

CONTINUED FROM BACK

adapted from George Frideric Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, which is performed at the coronation of British monarchs.

Liverpool will hold a tribute for the Queen and there is likely to be close scrutiny of how that is received. The national anthem was booed by Liverpool supporters during their visits to Wembley last season, resulting in Klopp being asked how a minute's silence to mark the death of the Queen would be received.

The Liverpool manager said that those inside Anfield would behave respectfully and referenced the applause for Cristiano Ronaldo in the seventh minute of April's match against Manchester United after the death of his newborn son.

"It is the right thing to do but I don't

think our people need any kind of advice from me for showing respect," Klopp said. "There are plenty of examples where people showed exactly the right respect."

"One which surprised me — and I was really proud of that moment — was last season when we played Manchester United around a very sad situation with Cristiano Ronaldo's family. And that is what I expect. For me, it is clear that's what we have to do. That's it."

Klopp lost his mother Elisabeth last year at the age of 81 and said that his concern was for the Queen's family. "I am 55 years old and she is the only Queen of England I ever knew," he said.

"The things you can see are that she was a really warm, nice, loved lady and that is all that I need to know."

"Because of my personal experience not too long ago [I know] it is obviously

Revised Premier League weekend schedule

Friday
Aston Villa v Southampton, 8pm, Sky Sports
Nottingham Forest v Fulham, 8pm

Saturday
Wolverhampton

Wanderers v Manchester City, 12.30pm, BT Sport
Newcastle v Bournemouth, 3pm
Brighton v Crystal Palace, postponed
Tottenham v Leicester, 5.30pm, Sky Sports

Sunday
Brentford v Arsenal, 12pm, Sky Sports
Manchester Utd v Leeds, postponed
Everton v West Ham, 2.15pm, Sky Sports
Chelsea v Liverpool, postponed

not about what I think, but what people who are much closer to her felt."

"I respect their grief a lot and that is why I will show my respect with the minute's silence."

The increased spotlight on the Liverpool crowd comes after their reaction to God Save the Queen being played at

the Carabao Cup and FA Cup finals. The national anthem has been jeered for many decades by some of the Liverpool fans, in part due to resentment at the Conservative government's "managed decline" of the city in the 1980s.

Anti-establishment feelings were

further entrenched by the cover-up after the Hillsborough disaster in 1989, in which 97 fans were unlawfully killed.

Meanwhile the Women's Super League season will begin when Arsenal face Brighton on Friday — but the match will not be broadcast on mainstream television. Before the death of the Queen last week, the season should have begun with a match at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, which was set to air on Sky Sports Main Event.

Instead the Arsenal match, which kicks off at 7.30pm and is sold out, will be shown on the FA Player, a free streaming service that viewers have to register for. The pick for BBC1 and BBC iPlayer this weekend is the 12.30pm kick-off between Aston Villa and Manchester City, while Sky Sports will show Liverpool's first WSL match in two years when they host Chelsea on Sunday.

Robinson and Crawley repay loyalty that is now standard

Stokes and McCullum have stuck by players who might have been cast adrift in the past, writes Steve James

It is the oldest and hoariest of clichés, but so much of cricket is played in the mind, and this has again been spectacularly highlighted by the remarkable events of this summer.

England's mindset has obviously been changed by their head coach, Brendon McCullum, and captain, Ben Stokes, with positivity and attack at its core, an approach given one last confirmation when, with six required to win, Ollie Pope attempted to reverse-scoop Marco Jansen. It was unsuccessful, but McCullum joked afterwards that Pope should have tried it again the next ball, while Stokes clapped at Pope's audacity, as he was treated for the blows to wrist and jaw that he took for his troubles.

The desire always to seek results was emphasised by its contrast with South Africa's "get-a-draw-and-get-home" approach, but this change has only been achieved by the constant backing of every player by McCullum and Stokes and their support staff, and even those above, such as England's managing director of men's cricket, Rob Key.

Loyalty has been a much more important word this summer than the ubiquitous term used to describe England's methods and so disliked by McCullum. Only one player, the Durham fast bowler Matthew Potts, has been dropped, and only because an outstanding seam bowler in English conditions, Ollie Robinson, had regained fitness. That was a logical change, and one that could have been made a Test earlier against South Africa at Lord's, but for the desire to give Potts one more opportunity.

That security, even if only imagined, against the inevitable failures that this game brings is something every player craves. Cricket, especially Tests, with their long days, is a game much suited to worriers as it is, with many players prone to more introspection than they would care to admit. But that tension can be alleviated by just a few words of confidence from captain or coach, or by the knowledge that mistakes will be tolerated if they are made for the right reasons and that time will be afforded for you to find your feet and work out how to succeed at this higher level.

This is obviously particularly true of the opening batsmen, Alex Lees and Zak Crawley. There has been an

awful lot of talk about them, not least from this observer, but for them to bat as they did in the final innings of the summer was testament to their strength of character, but also the shrewd management of McCullum and Stokes to keep their minds and games in sufficient shape to be able to play like that after so many low scores and the accompanying criticism.

Opening the batting in Test cricket in England is tough. As McCullum pointed out in an interview with Sky Sports at the Kia Oval, the last two Englishmen to make a success of the job — Alastair Cook and Andrew Strauss — have been knighted. That should tell us everything about how highly we should value an England opener's contributions.

Crawley has averaged 23 this summer and Lees 25.15, but South Africa's Dean Elgar managed to average only 21.40 in this series and his partner, Sarel Erwee, 25.40.

Key mentioned that the Australia opener David Warner averages "something like nine" over here, clearly referring to his 2019 Ashes series (9.50), but, overall, in 13 Tests here he averages only 26.04. This was something that the former national selector Ed Smith spoke to Owen Slot about in these pages recently when considering Crawley's place: "Very rarely in that debate has anyone said the median average for the last 12

picked openers is similar to or a little bit less than what Zak Crawley is averaging. So 25 is probably the median average."

It does make you wonder (and it should be noted that Rory Burns averages 33.65 in England, and Dom Sibley 30.25), and makes the censure appear rather churlish. As Stokes said to Sky Sports regarding criticism of his occasionally reckless batting: "You can keep on criticising if we are winning six out of seven Tests."

Indeed, England have rediscovered their habit of winning at home. One of the biggest problems for the previous regime was they stopped doing that, losing a series to New Zealand last year and being 2-1 down to India before the final Test (played this summer and, of course, won by England) was postponed. The last time England had lost a series at home before that was in 2014.

Winning away will be a different challenge, and changes must be made. Maybe a second spinner (Moeen Ali?) and a fast bowler of greater pace (Mark Wood?) will be integrated in Pakistan in December, but if there is the same clarity of purpose then you would not bet against a first series win there since 2000, when another very decent coach and captain partnership, Duncan Fletcher and Nasser Hussain, achieved their first series scalp abroad.

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Ollie Robinson took twelve wickets in four innings against South Africa, including a five-for in the first innings at the Kia Oval



The seam bowler Robinson returned for the final two Tests after regaining fitness

England v South Africa: Series averages

England	Tests	Runs	Bat avge	Wkts	Bowl avge
Zak Crawley (Kent)	3	134	33.50	—	—
Alex Lees (Durham)	3	96	19.20	—	—
Ollie Pope (Surrey)	3	179	44.75	—	—
Joe Root (Yorkshire)	3	46	11.50	0	—
Jonny Bairstow (Yorkshire)	2	67	22.33	—	—
Harry Brook (Yorkshire)	1	12	12.00	—	—
Ben Stokes (Durham, captain)	3	149	37.25	10	15.70
†Ben Foakes (Surrey)	3	133	44.33	—	—
Stuart Broad (Nottinghamshire)	3	77	19.25	14	15.57
Matthew Potts (Durham)	1	7	7.00	2	39.50
Ollie Robinson (Sussex)	2	20	10.00	12	15.00
Jack Leach (Somerset)	3	26	8.66	2	44.50
James Anderson (Lancashire)	3	1	0.50	10	16.60
South Africa	Tests	Runs	Bat avge	Wkts	Bowl avge
Dean Elgar (captain)	3	107	21.40	—	—
Sarel Erwee	3	127	25.40	—	—
Keegan Petersen	3	122	24.40	—	—
Aiden Markram	2	36	12.00	—	—
Ryan Rickleton	1	19	9.50	—	—
Rassie van der Dussen	2	76	25.33	—	—
Khaya Zondo	1	39	19.50	—	—
Wiaan Mulder	1	17	8.50	0	—
†Kyle Verreyne	3	61	15.25	—	—
Simon Harmer	1	18	9.00	1	73.00
Keshav Maharaj	3	79	15.80	4	28.25
Marco Jansen	2	82	27.33	9	13.11
Kagiso Rabada	3	48	12.00	14	23.35
Lungi Ngidi	2	4	2.00	2	44.00
Anrich Nortje	3	45	15.00	10	24.80

Gay in Lions contention after innings of his life

Northamptonshire v Surrey

Northampton (first day of four; Surrey won toss): Northamptonshire have scored 249 for four wickets

LV= County Championship
Geoffrey Dean

Emilio Gay served notice with his huge potential with a career-best 145 that condemned Surrey to a truncated day of hard toil after they had put Northamptonshire in. If conditions for bowling were not as favourable as Rory Burns would have hoped, Gay played the innings of his life against title-chasing opponents.

Like Alastair Cook, Gay went to Bedford School and is a tall left-handed opener, although he has sometimes batted at No 3 in this his first full season. News of the authoritative manner in which he comfortably saw off two top-quality new-ball bowlers, in Kemar Roach and Dan Worrall, and then blunted the other seamers, ought to reach England selectors. A place on the Lions tour this winter surely beckons.

This was Gay's third championship hundred, with both his previous centuries having come at Canterbury against Kent. One of them was this season, during which he has also made five fifties. Devastating off his legs, as well as being an accomplished cutter and driver through extra cover, he took only 118 balls to reach his hundred, but no less impressive than his powerful shotmaking was the solidity of his defence. Sel-

Gay has made five fifties and two hundreds this season



dom beaten, he showed he knew where his off stump was, as well as playing late and straight. Although he ducked into a bouncer from Gus Atkinson that he may not have picked up when the flood-lights were on, he had evaded the short ball comfortably enough.

His composure perhaps unsettled by the blow to the grille, he fell soon after, top-edging another bouncer to deep square leg. It was a shame, for before another ball had been bowled to the new batsman, the umpires took the players off for rain. Bad light prevented them from coming back.

Gay had dominated an opening stand of 77 with Will Young, whose share of it was only 20. After a rain delay there was more movement for Roach and Worrall, who picked up three wickets in five overs to reduce Northamptonshire to 94 for three. Young and Luke Procter were both defeated by Roach's extra bounce before Josh Cobb edged Worrall's outswinger.

Rob Keogh, however, played with assurance to finish unbeaten with 75 out of a fourth wicket alliance of 155 in 38 overs with Gay. Burns only turned to his leg spinner, Cameron Steel, very late in the day, whereupon Gay drilled a full toss to Hashim Amla at mid-off, who could not hold on. It was a rare blemish from a player of whom more is sure to be heard. One sumptuous whipped four off Worrall through square leg bore the flourish of the great strokeplayers of yesteryear from the Caribbean, the region of Gay's ancestry.

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Sport England v South Africa: Third LV= Insurance Test

Transformed England have

Mike Atherton

Chief Cricket Correspondent



England v South Africa

Kia Oval (final day of five): England beat South Africa by nine wickets

There was a pleasing turnout at the Kia Oval for the final day of this summer's Test cricket, given the circumstances. Those who made the effort — more than 5,000 came through the gates — cannot have expected more than ten overs at the most, so maybe the majority wanted to pay tribute to a team who, by dint of a transformation of leadership and attitude, have done their utmost to bring some shine back to England's Test performances. It has been a restorative summer.

As it was, only half that number of overs were needed to knock off the runs required, which included further indications that, mentally, South Africa were already on the plane home. Alex Lees, having already benefited from a first-ball drop the evening before, was given two more reprieves in the slip cordon, before falling leg-before after Kagiso Rabada's belated review.

Looking back at Lees's performances provides an interesting insight into England's summer more broadly. On an individual level, it would be hard to argue that he has been successful, with only two half-centuries and an average falling below 30. Yet he has clearly bought into the aggressive outlook and mindset that Ben Stokes has demanded and, with England winning six Tests, may have bought himself more time.

The same could be said of Zak Crawley, who finished the summer with his highest score and who put the seal on the victory with a thump off the back foot through cover off Marco Jansen. Crawley garnered only 276 runs across the Tests and averaged a little over 20, but at least he left us with a glimpse of the upside and an understanding of why the selectors remain so patient. In another age, he would not have lasted so long, but can probably look forward to the Tests in Pakistan in December, where the pitches will offer no excuses.

There were individual triumphs across the Tests, from Jonny Bairstow — named player of the summer — Joe Root, Ollie Robinson, man of the match here, and Stokes himself but the lasting impression was one of the improvement in the collective health and vitality of the team. The players looked to be enjoying their cricket again. They seemed unburdened, somehow relieved of pressure and unafraid to express themselves. There are no indications, for example, of the impending retirement of James Anderson and Stuart Broad, who are having too much fun to quit now.

In any event, Stokes would baulk at any emphasis on the individual. He would simply say that results, and the manner with which they have been achieved, are the only statistics worth worrying over and who, in the end, can disagree? After slumping to the bottom of the World Test Championship, with only one win in 17 prior Tests, England have won six out of their first seven matches under his direction. Each victory was achieved batting second and

by a significant margin, to lay down a style of play that seemed to discombobulate their opponents.

This was the first time since 2004, since the heady days of Michael Vaughan's captaincy, that England have won six Tests in the summer. Vaughan was a very fine England captain and there have been obvious signs, in the firm leadership style and clear messaging, that Stokes is a natural-born leader as well. He has surpassed all expectations and could become one of the great England captains. Who would have thought that five years ago?

As well as lifting the performances of those around him, Stokes's own game has been in good order. His batting has veered to the reckless at times, but his hundred at Manchester was a template of how to balance the determination to set an aggressive example with a requirement to show some humility and awareness of the match situation and conditions. Stokes averaged 40 with the bat and 25 with the ball across the summer, numbers the right way around for an all-rounder.

If there was a worry, it was in the way he held his left knee from time to time; it seems to flare more frequently now. It is hard to overstate just how important he is to this team, both as leader and as the all-rounder who allows for balance in selection. Quite how severe the knee problems are is hard to know; quite what longevity his body will allow is hard to know too. Let's enjoy him while we can and keep fingers firmly crossed for next summer's Ashes.

The balanced attack enjoyed a productive summer in conditions that remained helpful, if not quite as helpful as in some recent seasons. The old firm of Broad and Anderson took 56 wickets between them, Broad the leading wicket-taker with 29. Matthew Potts had a fine introduction to Test cricket and Robinson's return was a highly successful one. Jack Leach enjoyed the captain's confidence without ever quite suggesting he is top-class material. There remain a dearth of alternatives.

So to Pakistan and England's first visit there for 17 years. The enthusiasm with which Rob Key, the managing director of men's cricket, has discussed this impending visit gives further indication of the change in attitude which appears more open and embracing of the opportunities. That said, England have only ever won two Tests there, so the pre-Christmas series will provide a sterner examination of this team.

And then to the Ashes next summer. Will the opening partnership have found its footing by then? Will Stokes's knee hold up? Will Broad and Anderson last the course? A dose of realism is probably necessary, having beaten a New Zealand team who looked a little past their best, an India team who were undercooked and a South Africa team with the weakest batting line-up that has come to these shores in recent times. Nevertheless, to be even contemplating the Ashes with optimism would have been unthinkable in Hobart eight months ago.

But then came Key, plucked from commentary to administration; then Stokes, eager for the opportunity to lead, and then Brendon McCullum, the head coach, ambling through the gates at Lord's in his jeans and white trainers, full of hope. It was an unlikely triumvirate thrown together in haste and through odd circumstances. What a summer they have given us.

McCullum helped engineer a sixth win from seven Tests



Numbers behind a remarkable summer

The first summer of England's new Test regime under Ben Stokes and Brendon McCullum has been an unexpected triumph (Simon Wilde writes). Results have been exceptional: only once before (in 2004) have England won more than five matches in a home season — this from a side that had previously won once in 15 months. The manner in which the

Stokes' all-round genius

Ben Stokes became only the fourth England player — and the first as captain

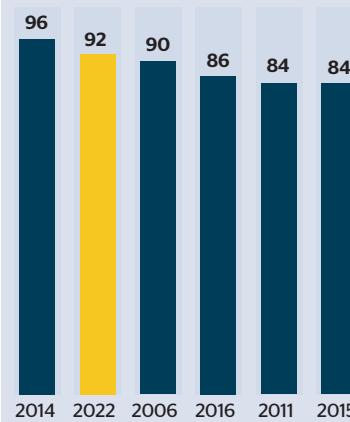
	Runs	Wickets
Andrew Flintoff (2004)	603	24
Ian Botham (1982)	566	27
A Flintoff (2005)	402	33
I Botham (1981)	399	34
Ben Stokes (2022)	368	18
Moeen Ali (2017)	361	30

team played in the three-Test whitewash against New Zealand, one-Test win against India, and 2-1 win against South Africa was thrilling. The dressing-room mantra was to always take the attacking option, which meant England were never dull to watch, whether batting or bowling. Here are some of the key features of a mad-cap summer.

— to score 360 runs and take 18 wickets in a home Test summer

Attacking fields

Only once have England taken more catches in a home Test summer than in their seven matches this year



Batsmen in a hurry

England scored at 4.44 runs an over — their highest figure in a home Test summer of three matches or more

2022	4.44
2005	4.12
2011	3.84
2004	3.83
2009	3.75

Top-order struggles

This summer, the top four batsmen from all sides averaged 28.37, the third-lowest since 1960

Teams	Average
2000 Eng, W Indies, Zimbabwe	24.59
1981 Eng, Australia	24.98
2022 Eng, India, S Africa, NZ	28.37
1999 New Zealand	29.35
2018 England, Pakistan, India	30.01

Wickets first, not economy

England's strike rate significantly improved this summer as they took 20

Summer	Strike rate	Economy
2012	77.8	2.99
2013	48.7	3.19
2014	57.4	2.93
2015	53.2	3.69
2016	52.5	3.05
2017	48.3	3.08
2018	47.1	3.09
2019	48.1	3.34
2020	53.8	2.79
2021	63.1	2.85
2022	50.6	3.14



'I didn't want the job but I am loving it'

Elizabeth Ammon

Brendon McCullum has revealed that he was not initially interested when approached to become England's Test coach but said that after the success of the summer he was now "loving it".

"I didn't actually want the job but now I've got it I am loving it," McCullum, 40, said. "It is certainly different to what I've done before and I'm very lucky to work with some of the best players in the world."

"I looked at English cricket and thought there was an immense amount of talent but hadn't quite realised just how much there is and how good these players are. It's been an absolute thrill."

In just over three months, and in partnership with the Test captain, Ben

Stokes, McCullum has transformed England's Test team. "I've particularly enjoyed working alongside the skipper," McCullum said of Stokes. "He is an incredible human being. A great thinker of the game, and his messaging has been excellent as well."

McCullum will return home to New Zealand before England's next Test series, in Pakistan at the end of year.

"When we go to Pakistan, we can't live off the fact we have won six out of seven games here [in England this summer] because it is a completely different challenge," he said.

"We want to continue the form we have shown and the way in which we play, to walk towards the danger of what Pakistan is going to throw at us."

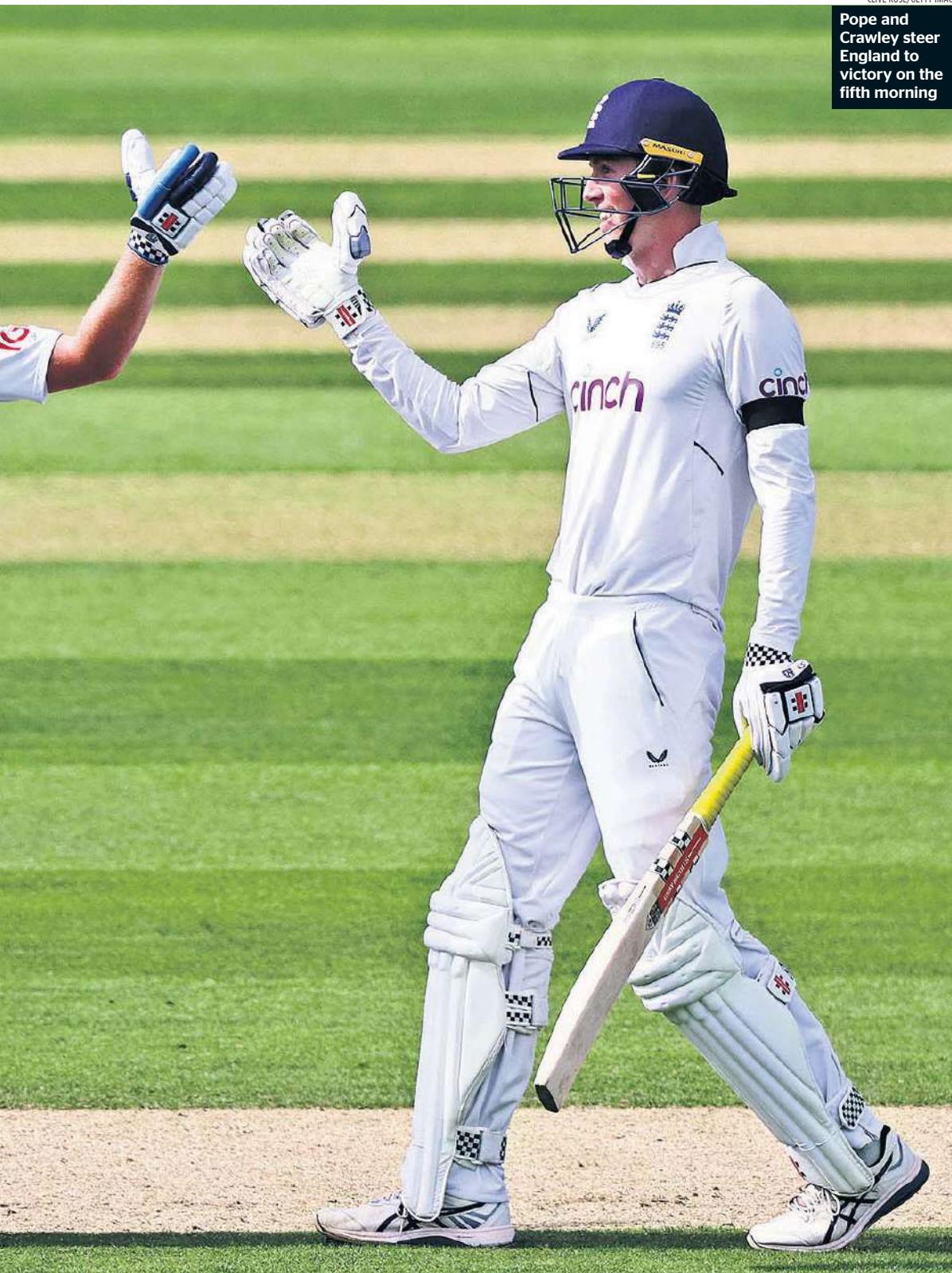
England's nine-wicket victory, to

clinch the series against South Africa 2-1, was wrapped up within 25 minutes on the final morning. Zak Crawley, who had been under pressure after a summer of modest returns, hit the winning runs and finished with an unbeaten 69. "Zak will learn a lot from this innings," McCullum said. "We saw what he is capable of achieving. This process he has gone through over the last couple of months will hold him in good stead."

Mark Boucher, South Africa's head coach, has resigned in the wake of the series loss and will leave his position after the T20 World Cup in November.

The former Test wicketkeeper has been in charge of the Proteas since December 2019. According to a statement by Cricket South Africa, he resigned to "pursue other opportunities".

delivered indelible summer



CLIVE ROSE/GETTY IMAGES
Pope and Crawley steer England to victory on the fifth morning

Stokes excited by Pakistan challenge

CONTINUED FROM BACK

special thing we've achieved. Two of our premium fast bowlers have had big injuries. So you add Jofra Archer and Mark Wood into the mix and it's scary to think where things could go. And when you consider the batters that we have coming through, it's a high ceiling.

"When you know you have an Ashes coming up soon, it's hard not to look at it. Especially with how the last Ashes went [a 4-0 defeat]. We have got to concentrate on Pakistan first and foremost, and then look to plan for Australia. But I am excited by the Ashes next summer. I am looking forward to the challenge."

England's next assignment is a three-match series in Pakistan in December, which Stokes accepts will be a signifi-

cantly sterner test for his side, who will not be able to rely on the familiar conditions that they enjoyed this summer.

"When we go to Pakistan it's going to be a completely different environment, but we want to go there and keep continuing the form we've shown and the way in which we've played," Stokes said.

"You are not going to get anywhere near as much assistance there with the ball as you do in England. You will be facing a lot more spin and that's a new challenge for us and something we are excited by: to show that in different situations we can try to put the pressure back on to the opposition."

Stokes was named player of the series against South Africa, having scored 149 runs at 37.25, including a vital century in the second Test, and taken ten wicks-

ets at 15.70. He added that he felt particularly "blessed" to still have the services of James Anderson and Stuart Broad and said there was no reason why the veteran seam-bowling duo cannot be a key part of the attack in the Ashes.

"You keep picking people if they keep performing," he said. "To have two of the great seam bowlers of world cricket in your team ... I feel very blessed to be in a dressing room with them."

Stokes also praised Joe Root, his predecessor. "Joe has got to take a lot of credit," he said. "After captaining the side for six years in a way that he did, to then buy into something completely different. I have been thankful that I've had a group of lads who have understood what me and Baz [McCullum] are trying to achieve and bought into it."

Scoreboard from third Test

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings	R	ENGLAND: First Innings	R
*D Elgar	1	A Z Lees	13
b Robinson		b Jansen	
Shaping in; removes off stump		Off-stump line; smashes middle	
S J Erwee	0	Z Crawley	5
c Foakes b Anderson		lbw b Jansen	
Seams away; dragged forward; edge		Full, straight, angling in; hits knee roll	
K D Petersen	12	O J D Pope	67
b Robinson		c Verreyne b Rabada	
Fuller; rearranges off stump		Pushes at one outside off	
R D Rickleton	11	J E Root	23
c Foakes b Broad		c Petersen b Jansen	
On front foot; angled away; edge		Outside off; swings hard, thick edge	
K Zondo	23	H C Brook	12
c Lees b Broad		c Rabada b Jansen	
Short ball; thick edge to gully		Short; pops one up to square leg	
†K Verreyne	0	*B A Stokes	6
c Foakes b Robinson		c Erwee b Nortje	
Nips away, catching the edge		Driving on up away from body; edge	
P W A Mulder	3	†B T Foakes	14
c Foakes b Robinson		c Petersen b Jansen	
Full and wide; late outswing; edge		Fends a length ball to slip	
M Jansen	30	S C J Broad	6
c Root b Robinson		c Verreyne b Rabada	
On a length outside off; to first slip		Flashes across the line, snicks off	
K A Maharaj	18	O E Robinson	3
b Broad		c Elgar b Rabada	
Short ball; inside edge on to stumps		Chips one to cover	
K S Rabada	7	M J Leach	0
not out		b Rabada	
A Nortje	7	Dangles bat; chops on	
c Stokes b Broad		J M Anderson	0
Full; chipped tamely to mid-off		not out	
Extras	6	Extras	9
(lb 2, nb 4)		(b1, lb1, nb7)	
TOTAL (36.2 overs)	118	TOTAL (36.2 overs)	158
Fall of wickets 1-2, 2-7, 3-21, 4-31, 5-32, 6-36, 7-72, 8-99, 9-110		Fall of wickets 1-17, 2-43, 3-84, 4-107, 5-129, 6-133, 7-151, 8-155, 9-158	
Bowling Anderson 8-2-16-1; Robinson 14-3-49-5; Broad 12.2-1-41-4; Leach 2-10-0		Bowling Rabada 13-1-81-4; M Jansen 12.2-2-35-5; Mulder 2-0-11-0; Nortje 9-0-29-1	
SOUTH AFRICA: Second Innings	R	ENGLAND: Second Innings	R
S J Erwee	26	Overnight: 97-0	
c Root b Stokes		A Lees	39
Fuller length, snaffled at first slip		lbw b Rabada	
*D Elgar	36	Tailing in; caught on crease	
lbw b Broad		Z Crawley	69
Full, straight, into front pad		not out	
K D Petersen	23	O J D Pope	11
c Pope b Anderson		not out	
Thick edge, steered to fourth slip		Extras (lb 6, nb 5)	11
R D Rickleton	8	TOTAL (22.3 overs; 1 wkt)	130
lbw b Broad		Did not bat J Root, H Brook, B Stokes, B Foakes, S Broad, O Robinson, J Leach, J Anderson	
Outswinger, hit on the back shin		Fall of wicket 1-108	
K Zondo	16	Bowling Rabada 11-1-57-1; Jansen 7.3-0-40-0; Nortje 4-0-27-0	
lbw b Robinson			
Inswinger, slammed in front			
P W A Mulder	14		
b Robinson			
Under-edged cut into middle stump			
†K Verreyne	12		
c and b Anderson			
Top-edge, taken in follow through			
M Jansen	4		
b Stokes			
Inswinger, plucks out leg stump			
K S Rabada	0		
c Brook b Stokes			
Fat edge, looped up to third slip			
K A Maharaj	18		
b Broad			
Inward seam, brushed the bails			
A Nortje	0		
not out			
Extras	12		
(b 4, lb 4, nb 4)			
TOTAL (56.2 overs)	169		
Fall of wickets 1-58, 2-83, 3-91, 4-95, 5-120, 6-133, 7-146, 8-146, 9-169			
Bowling Anderson 15.2-4-37-2; Robinson 15-5-40-2; Broad 13-2-45-3; Stokes 13-2-39-3			



Bairstow, England's Test player of the summer with 681 runs at an average of 75.66, provides an update on the "freak" leg injury that ruled him out of the third Test

Umpires N Menon (Ind) and R Kettleborough (Eng). **Player of the match** O Robinson (Eng). **Player of the series** B Stokes (Eng). **Series details**: First Test: Lord's South Africa won by an innings and 12 runs. Second Test: Emirates Old Trafford England won by an innings and 85 runs. Third Test: Kia Oval England won by nine wickets.

Sport



The Alcaraz era?

Stuart Fraser and Matthew Syed on US Open champion

Page 58



'Bring on the Australians'

Elizabeth Ammon

Ben Stokes said that he is relishing the prospect of unleashing his side's attacking cricket on Australia in next year's Ashes and revealed that he thinks it is "scary" what this England team could achieve.

Under the leadership of Stokes, the captain, and Brendon McCullum, the head coach, the fortunes of the Test team have been rejuvenated: after the low of the winter defeats by Australia and West Indies, they have become the first England side in 18 years to win six Tests in a summer.

"How far can we go? Who knows? But it's great to think about," Stokes, 31, said after watching his side complete a 2-1 series victory over South Africa with a nine-wicket win at the Kia Oval. "It would be silly not to reflect on this summer. It's a very

Continued on page 67

Two biggest games are off

● Arsenal may forfeit postponed PSV tie ● Klopp asks Anfield to respect minute's silence

Martyn Ziegler, Paul Joyce and Matt Lawton

The Premier League's two biggest matches of the weekend have been called off due to a lack of police resources while Arsenal may have to forfeit their Europa League tie against PSV Eindhoven after it too was postponed.

Chelsea versus Liverpool and Manchester United versus Leeds United have been postponed due to police being diverted to cover the build-up to the Queen's funeral, but seven other Premier League games will go ahead.

Meanwhile, Jürgen Klopp has said

that he expects Liverpool supporters to respect a minute's silence in memory of the Queen before the Champions League match against Ajax tonight.

The two postponed Premier League games are both category A matches, which require large numbers of police. Brighton & Hove Albion versus Crystal Palace had already been postponed.

The decision to call off Arsenal's Europa League match, also due to police resources, has caused a headache for the club and Uefa, as there is no possible date to play the match before the group stage is due to end. It may be that, as with Tottenham Hotspur in the Europa

Conference League last season, Arsenal have to forfeit the game, with PSV awarded a 3-0 win.

Uefa said no decision had been made on the fixture, but the only other possibility would be to play it in January. If Arsenal have already qualified from the group anyway it may be that all parties agree to forfeit the game.

The Premier League said it had no choice but to postpone the games. A league statement read: "Following extensive consultation with clubs, police, local Safety Advisory Groups and other relevant authorities, there was no other option but to postpone the fixtures.

"The Premier League would like to thank the UK Football Policing Unit and other police forces across the country, as well as our broadcast partners, for their support during this process, and will continue to liaise with them ahead of the weekend.

"For the matches being played during the period of national mourning, tributes will be paid to the Queen at Premier League stadiums."

Uefa will also drop the playing of the Champions League anthem for home matches involving British teams this week. The song, written in 1992, was

Continued on page 64

Eubank: I will stop son's fight

Tom Kershaw

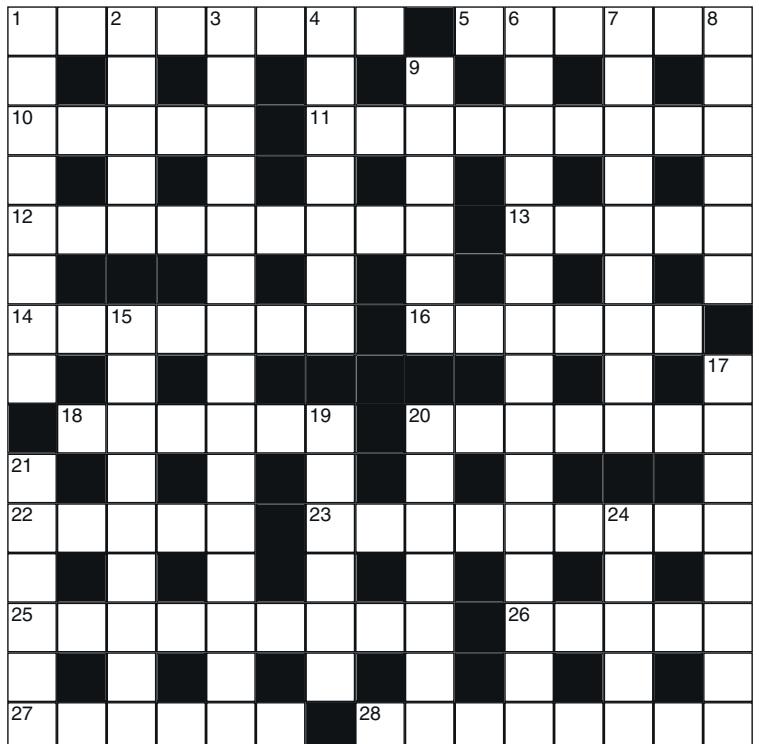
Chris Eubank Sr has claimed that his son's scheduled bout against Conor Benn will not go ahead on October 8 due to a weight stipulation in the contract that he branded as "suicide".

Eubank Jr and Benn agreed to face each other at 157lb in London next month, adding another extraordinary chapter to a historic family rivalry stretching back over three decades.

However, Eubank Sr told *The Times* that he will do everything in his power to prevent his son from fighting because of concerns over the weight, with Eubank Jr having never previously fought below the middleweight limit of 160lb in his professional career.

Continued on page 59

Times Crossword 28,394



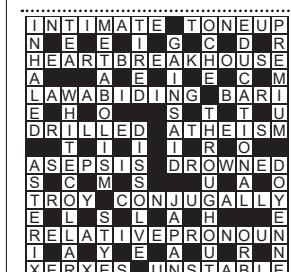
ACROSS

- Vessel I can put on sea, heading west (8)
- Persian utterance lost after battle — that's painful (5)
- Junior's grabbing sword, descending on plants — yikes! (7,8)
- Kind of experience a masseuse needs? (5-2)
- When drunk, create alcoholic pastry (9,6)
- Deceitful behaviour put bend on railway (9)
- Famous Roman port city's nickname (6)
- Reluctantly pay £25 at college (4,2)
- Observing ability to accept brigadier's last command (4,5)
- Lives on spacecraft, one surrounded by water (8)
- Discuss possibly sleeping over on edges on terrace (6)
- Translator's boy held up by river in the north-east (7)
- International young lady drinking shot (6)
- That is boxing magazine's picture (5)

DOWN

- Go off school during appointment (8)
- Persian utterance lost after battle — that's painful (5)
- Junior's grabbing sword, descending on plants — yikes! (7,8)
- Kind of experience a masseuse needs? (5-2)
- When drunk, create alcoholic pastry (9,6)
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Yesterday's solution 28,393



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The King's reply to parliament's addresses of condolence

“

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons:

I am deeply grateful for the Addresses of Condolence by the House of Lords and the House of Commons, which so touchingly encompass what our late sovereign, my beloved mother the Queen, meant to us all. As Shakespeare says of the earlier Queen Elizabeth, she was 'a pattern to all princes living'.

As I stand before you today, I cannot help but feel the weight of history which surrounds us and which reminds us of the vital Parliamentary traditions to which Members of both Houses dedicate yourselves, with such personal commitment for the betterment of us all.

Parliament is the living and breathing instrument of our democracy. That your traditions are ancient we see in the construction of this great Hall and the reminders of medieval predecessors of the office to which I have been called.

And the tangible connections to my darling late mother we see all around us; from the fountain in New Palace Yard which commemorates the late Queen's Silver Jubilee to the sundial in Old Palace Yard for the Golden Jubilee, the magnificent Stained Glass Window before me for the Diamond Jubilee and, so poignantly and yet to be formally unveiled, your most generous gift to her late majesty to mark the unprecedented Platinum Jubilee which we celebrated only three months ago, with such joyful hearts.

The great bell of Big Ben — one of the most powerful symbols of our nation throughout the world and housed within the Elizabeth Tower also named for my mother's Diamond Jubilee — will mark the passage of the late Queen's progress from Buckingham Palace to this Parliament on Wednesday.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons:

We gather today in remembrance of the remarkable span of The Queen's dedicated service to her nations and peoples. While very young, her late majesty pledged herself to serve her country and her people and to maintain the precious principles of constitutional government which lie at the heart of our nation. This vow she kept with unsurpassed devotion.

She set an example of selfless duty which, with God's help and your counsels, I am resolved faithfully to follow.”

”

“
AS I STAND
BEFORE YOU TODAY,
I CANNOT HELP BUT
FEEL THE WEIGHT
OF HISTORY WHICH
SURROUNDS US

KING CHARLES III
WESTMINSTER HALL, 2022

PHOTOGRAPH BY JANE BARLOW



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The Queen

A life Part 3 Queen and country



Queen and country

The weekly audience with Her Majesty

The monarch held regular meetings with 14 of her 15 prime ministers during her decades on the throne. Although the politicians' personalities were as different as the challenges they faced, she remained constant — prepared, thoughtful and astute, writes Valentine Low

Despite the entertaining fantasy promulgated by Peter Morgan in his play *The Audience*, no one really knew what was discussed during the weekly meetings between the Queen and the prime minister. Plenty of people have asked, however. In the early days of her reign, when the Queen was in her twenties and

Winston Churchill was more than half a century her senior, his private secretary Jock Colville noticed that as the two of them grew to know each other, the meetings got longer. "What do you talk about?" he asked the prime minister. "Oh, mostly racing," he replied.

For all his jocularity, it would be a mistake to suppose that the meetings were all gossip and small talk. She read her boxes and always knew what was going on. "The Queen," Edward Heath wrote, "is undoubtedly one of the best-informed people in the world."

Her 14th prime minister was Boris Johnson — who was four months old when her fifth prime minister, Harold Wilson, came to power. Inevitably the Queen got on better with some of her prime ministers than others, and one suspects that her relationship with Johnson struggled to recover after he asked her to prorogue parliament in 2019 only for the advice to be ruled unlawful.

Churchill adored her and occupied a special place in her affections — the historian Ben Pimlott described how the meetings would take on an almost jaunty air. "The premier would arrive wearing a frock coat and top hat, with a gleam in his eye, and disappear happily into a secret conclave."

Harold Macmillan treated their relationship as what Pimlott called a kind of "chivalrous fantasy", while she got on surprisingly well with Wilson, despite having little in common with him. He treated her as an equal and aides noted that their audiences grew longer. He once described the meetings as the only times when he could have a serious conversation, which would not be leaked, with somebody who wasn't after his job.

Not all of the relationships have been quite so easy.

When Heath met her, he said: "I lost my nerve and said to her, 'Have you been busy lately, Ma'am?'" That, she replied, "is the sort of question lord mayors ask when I visit cities." Heath had no small talk and little time for women, and as a member of the household observed: "The Queen found Heath hard going."

Politically, too, they were at odds: she was a fervent believer in the Commonwealth, while Heath was a passionate European to the exclusion of all else. In 1971 he wanted her to stay away from the first Commonwealth leaders' meeting in Singapore because of the anticipated furious reaction to his plan to resume arms sales to South Africa; it took an intense meeting between monarch and prime minister for her to agree.

Even the most confident and socially adept of prime ministers could be put in their place. Recalling his first audience, Tony Blair said: "She was... direct. 'You are my tenth prime minister. The first was Winston. That was before you were born.' I got a sense of my relative seniority, or lack of it."

Margaret Thatcher was her longest-serving prime minister and, in terms of the relationship between monarch and politician, the most contentious. The two women were different in both their politics and their personal style. Thatcher was no countrywoman and struggled with her annual visit to Balmoral; more importantly, they never saw eye to eye over the importance of the Commonwealth. Yet the furore that was caused by an article in *The Sunday Times* probably led to an exaggerated view about the level of animosity between them. The Queen had a profound respect for Thatcher and attended her funeral — a state funeral in all but name.

As the Queen grew older, and her prime ministers younger, their relationship changed. When John Major — the first prime minister who was younger than the Queen — succeeded Thatcher, the Queen "discovered in him a more relaxed congenial visitor than his predecessor", according to Pimlott.

David Cameron, whose brother used to go to tea at Windsor because he was at prep school with Prince Edward, revealed how she occasionally teased him. Although she never saw *The Audience*, she got wind



COVER: BETTMANN/GETTY IMAGES. BELOW: KEYSTONE-FRANCE/GETTY IMAGES



► Princess Elizabeth with Winston Churchill, the leader of the opposition, in 1950. Two years later when she became Queen he was her first prime minister. Clement Attlee and his wife, Violet, are looking on

◀ On the cover: Elizabeth represents the King at Trooping the Colour in 1951

Queen and country

of the scene in which she supposedly does off as Cameron bored her with the latest political machinations from Europe. Later, the [real] Queen told him that she had never fallen asleep during their weekly meetings. After a dramatic pause, she added: "Yet!"

The Scottish independence referendum of 2014 illustrated just how closely the Palace works hand in hand with Downing Street. The No campaign, which was fighting to keep Scotland part of the United Kingdom, was always expected to win but as voting day approached the Yes campaign started to catch up and the two sides were running neck and neck. No 10 got into a panic, and approached the Palace to see if there was anything that could be done to help. As Cameron put it, he was not asking "for anything that would be in any way improper or unconstitutional but just a raising of the eyebrow even, you know, a quarter of an inch, we thought would make a difference".

The result was a carefully plotted intervention — engineered by Sir Jeremy Heywood, the cabinet secretary, and Sir Christopher Geidt, the Queen's private secretary — in which the Queen stopped to talk to members of the public after going to church near Balmoral. She told one: "I hope people will think very carefully about the future." It was cleverly worded: there was nothing political in what she said, but everyone knew what she meant.

After the No campaign won, Cameron was picked up on a microphone saying that the Queen had "purred down the line" when he called to give her the good news. He later apologised for his indiscretion. "It was very, very stupid of me," he said. "Oh, it was terrible. Anyway, I apologised, grovelled a lot."

Of the Queen's relationship with Gordon Brown, almost nothing is known. However, he did provide one of the more amusing prime ministerial moments of her reign, when he appeared to get lost at a state banquet after walking the wrong way round the banqueting table. "Has the prime minister got lost?" the Queen asked. "He disappeared the wrong way at the crucial moment."

Her relationship with Johnson got off to an uncertain start when the new prime minister let slip after their first meeting that she told him: "I don't know why anyone would want the job."

Such indiscretion might have been forgiven: what was more serious was when he advised the Queen to prorogue parliament in what was seen by many as an unconstitutional attempt to avoid parliamentary scrutiny of the government's Brexit plans in the final weeks before Britain's withdrawal from the EU. The advice was later ruled unlawful by the Supreme Court. However the Queen felt about it, the Duke of Cambridge for one was said to have been unhappy that the monarchy had been put into such an awkward situation.

If that was not bad enough, Downing Street also had to apologise to the Palace over two leaving parties held in apparent breach of coronavirus lockdown rules on the night before the Duke of Edinburgh's socially distanced funeral.

By the time Johnson resigned as Conservative leader in 2022 the Queen was having problems with her mobility. When it came time for him to hand over to his successor, Liz Truss, the Queen was at Balmoral, and decided not to make the journey back down to London: instead both outgoing and incoming prime ministers travelled up to Aberdeenshire. Truss became the first prime minister to be appointed at Balmoral since the Marquess of Salisbury in 1885. Two days later she announced the Queen's death.

While it is certain that the Queen never showed the slightest inclination to interfere in politics — aside, it might be argued, from her intervention in the Scottish referendum — she found on a number of occasions that it was hard to avoid. During the Suez crisis of 1956 she was in the invidious position of being kept thoroughly informed, thanks to a stream of Foreign Office papers and telegrams. So much so that she knew more of what was happening than a number of ministers, some of whom were notoriously kept in the dark. It also put her in a dilemma with regard to the Commonwealth: did she tell Commonwealth leaders what she had been told in confidence, or did she betray their trust by withholding information that was relevant to their interests?

As for the Queen's own position on Anthony Eden's Suez intervention, it seems she was not entirely neutral. "I think the Queen believed Eden was mad," recalled one Palace aide. While the Queen may not have gone so far as to protest against the Suez operation, one courtier recalled: "She may have said to Eden something like, 'Are you sure you are being wise?'"

Overseas visits produced their share of dilemmas. In 1961 the Queen had been due to visit Ghana, where the newly independent country was starting to move towards single-party rule and dictatorship. With violence and anti-British feeling on the increase, there were valid arguments for cancelling the visit, balanced by fears that to do so would drive Ghana into the arms



▲ The Queen attends a gala with Sir Anthony Eden at the Royal Opera House in London in 1955. The Suez Crisis brought a swift end to his premiership

▼ With Harold Wilson, the Queen's first Labour prime minister, who brought in a series of social reforms in his two premierships during the 1960s and 1970s

► The Queen, Prince Philip and her prime minister Harold Macmillan, in his role as the chancellor of the University of Oxford, during a visit to the city in 1960





PAUL POPPER/POPPIERFOTO/GETTY IMAGES; GETTY IMAGES; PA

► Edward Heath hosts the Queen, President Nixon and his wife, Pat, at Chequers in Buckinghamshire in 1970

▼ James Callaghan, who succeeded Wilson in 1976, at Windsor Castle the following year

▼ An informal moment with Margaret Thatcher at Balmoral. The Queen would attend her funeral in 2013



Tomorrow
The Queen
A life Part 4
The world
stage



Queen and country

of the Soviet Union. "She is grateful for concerns about her safety," Macmillan recorded in his diary, "but impatient of the attitude to treat her as a woman."

Determined to support the Commonwealth, the Queen went, and danced at a state ball with the Ghanaian president. In South Africa a nationalist newspaper complained of "the honoured head of the once mighty British Empire dancing with black natives of pagan Africa"; the Ghanaian press hailed her as "the greatest socialist monarch in the world".

One of the most controversial episodes in the Queen's political life came during the resignation of Macmillan as prime minister in 1963. He had been thinking — and dithering — about stepping down for some time, then was forced into action when he had to go into hospital for a prostate operation. This was before the days when the Conservative Party elected its leaders; the new leader was supposed to emerge through soundings, although there was no agreed mechanism as to how the process should work.

Macmillan, meanwhile, who was still recovering from his operation, was determined to mastermind the changeover from his hospital bed. Chaos ensued, with the leading contenders jockeying for position, the cabinet divided, backbench MPs throwing in their two ha'porth and Macmillan doing everything in his power to ensure that the obvious candidate — Rab Butler, the deputy prime minister — did not get the job.

Buckingham Palace did its best to stay out of the fray, which only served to prompt speculation about what the Queen would do. In the event, Macmillan managed to organise it so that within three quarters of an hour of his eventual resignation, the Queen was at his hospital bedside for a farewell meeting. She asked him for his advice, he suggested that she call for Lord Home (who would later relinquish his title to become Sir Alec Douglas-Home) and she agreed. According to Pimlott, the advice was unconstitutional, although it may have been what she wanted to hear. An aide told him: "When she got the advice to call Alec she thought, 'Thank God.' She loved Alec, he was an old friend. They talked about dogs and shooting. They were Scottish landowners, the same sort of people, like old school friends."

It was, in Pimlott's view, "the biggest political misjudgment of her reign", although other experts such as Vernon Bogdanor disagree. In *The Monarchy and the Constitution*, he says she correctly took the most straightforward course and avoided getting involved in the internal politics of the Conservative Party.

The controversy caused by the selection process led to a change in Tory party rules. It also explains why — when the Queen faced another constitutionally tricky moment, the 2010 general election, which was widely expected not to produce a party with an overall majority — she ensured that her private secretary had done a thorough job of laying the groundwork with the cabinet secretary so that when the time came for the post-election horse-trading to choose a prime minister, a clearly defined process was agreed and set in place. She was not going to be caught out again.



How she really got on with her first two female prime ministers

Comparisons have been made between Thatcher and May, writes Valentine Low

The Queen's relationship with her prime ministers was more influenced by the personal than the political: it had more to do with whether they were pompous or convivial, easygoing or stuffy, tweedy veterans of the grouse moor or pipe-smoking northerners than whether they were Labour or Conservative. Yet one of the

intriguing questions of her reign was: how did she get on with her female prime ministers?

Her first seven prime ministers were men — and all older than her. Winston Churchill was old enough to be her grandfather. With the arrival of Margaret Thatcher, an almost exact contemporary, the dynamic was changed. It would be a quarter of a century before the Queen would have another female prime minister, Theresa May, to be followed in 2022 by Liz Truss. By the time May came to power the dynamic had changed again; she was born when the Queen was a mother of two who had been on the throne for four years.

The lack of warmth between the Queen and Thatcher has been well documented, if a little exaggerated. Thatcher was a devoted monarchist. As one of her ministers observed: "No one would curtsey lower than Margaret."



▲ The Queen with Thatcher in London in 1983



◀ Boris Johnson meets the Queen for their first weekly audience after Covid-19 restrictions, in June 2021

◀ Tony Blair with the Queen in Downing Street, marking the Queen's 50th wedding anniversary in 1997

▶ David and Samantha Cameron welcoming the Queen and Prince Philip for a lunch at Downing Street in honour of the duke's 90th birthday, in 2011

▼ The Queen presenting her former prime minister John Major with the Companion of Honour, in 1999

▼ With Gordon Brown during a state visit by King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, in 2007

▼ Liz Truss was appointed by the Queen at Balmoral two days before the monarch died aged 96



▲ With Theresa May at the 2018 Commonwealth heads of government meeting

There was, however, a lack of mutual understanding. One story has it that the Queen said of her prime minister, in mock despair: "Mrs Thatcher never listens to a word I say." Thatcher, in turn, found some of the royal ways baffling, such as how the Queen washed up after Balmoral barbecues with her bare hands. After one visit she sent her a pair of washing-up gloves.

In 1986 *The Sunday Times* ran a story saying that the Queen was dismayed by some of Thatcher's policies. This, it claimed, went beyond the Commonwealth crisis over Thatcher's refusal to back sanctions against South Africa: "The Queen considers the prime minister's approach to be uncaring, confrontational and divisive."

The extent to which the Queen believed this has long been argued over, and never satisfactorily resolved, although the biographer Hugo Vickers has argued that he knows that the Queen was deeply upset by the way that Thatcher was ousted in 1990.

Whatever their differences, there was always respect between the two women. When the Queen attended Thatcher's 80th birthday party as guest of honour, others were touched by the sight of the Queen taking Thatcher's hand as she raised her from a deep curtsey before guiding the frail former prime minister through the throng of assembled friends and admirers.

After Thatcher died in 2013 the Queen broke with tradition to attend her funeral, something that

Thatcher's family said would have left her "humbled".

The Queen had a very different relationship with May. On paper it did not augur well; May had little small talk and no sense of the frivolous. However, unlike Thatcher, she was a woman for whom a day tramping through the heather at Balmoral, a rite of passage for any prime minister, would have held no fears. One source said the two of them "got on famously" during May's first visit to Balmoral in September 2016. "There hasn't been a PM since Harold Wilson who entered so gamely into the outdoor pursuits, parlour games and well-regulated rituals," they said. "This included the obligatory charades after dinner where all hope of dignity dies — thanks to royal cocktails, mixed at double strength."

Other sources told a different tale. The Queen and Philip were said to have been disappointed that they did not get to learn more about her Brexit plans during that visit. With hindsight this was not surprising; nearly three years later it was still not clear what Brexit meant.

One of the key questions was whether the Queen was a Brexiteer. During the referendum campaign *The Sun* claimed that the Queen had "let rip" at Nick Clegg about Europe at a lunch at Windsor Castle. Clegg dismissed the story as "nonsense" and *The Sun* was reprimanded by the press watchdog Ipsos for a headline that went beyond anything claimed in the story.

Queen and country

70
years of political life in Britain

The Queen's PMs

Words: Ben Macintyre



WINSTON CHURCHILL

Oct 26, 1951, to April 5, 1955

Second term, Mau Mau and the Special Relationship

By his re-election Winston Churchill was ageing, infirm and, according to Roy Jenkins, "gloriously unfit for office". But his powerful personality and gift for oratory remained. During his second term the Conservative Party accepted Labour's newly created welfare state, accelerated the building of council housing and increased pensions. Battling the rebellion against British rule in Malaya, he also sent troops to Kenya to deal with the Mau Mau uprising, while insisting "I will not preside over a dismemberment" of the British Empire. He devoted much time to the relationship with the US, but his efforts to defuse the escalating Cold War through personal diplomacy failed, and poor health forced him to resign.

“
I was so moved by her beauty and her charm and the kindness with which she made this offer, that for a moment I thought of accepting
”

At his last audience on April 5, 1955, when she offered him a dukedom

ANTHONY EDEN

April 6, 1955, to Jan 9, 1957

Suez crisis

Despite his boosting the Conservative majority from 17 to 60, Anthony Eden's premiership was overshadowed by his inept handling of the Suez crisis in 1956. After the nationalisation of the Suez Canal by Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser, Eden conspired with France and Israel to retake the canal – leading to widespread international condemnation and the threat of sanctions from the US. He then attempted to cover up the conspiracy, and resigned on January 9, 1957. According to his biographer, Suez had brought about a "truly tragic end to his premiership, and one that came to assume a disproportionate importance in any assessment of his career".



HAROLD MACMILLAN

Jan 10, 1957, to Oct 18, 1963

Decolonisation, "never had it so good", Profumo
Harold "Supermac" Macmillan did much to restore the country's confidence and fortunes after the humiliation of Suez, and presided over a rise in living standards that enabled him to claim the British public had "never had it so good". He maintained the effectiveness and credibility of the nuclear deterrent and was closely involved in negotiating the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1963. In his "wind of change" speech, he paved the way for decolonisation in Africa and Asia and distanced Britain from apartheid. After a series of scandals, the most damaging of which involved the war minister John Profumo, he resigned in October 1963.

“
I looked forward to my weekly audience knowing that I should receive from Your Majesty a wise and impartial reaction to events
”

In a letter Eden wrote to the Queen about his resignation in 1957

“
I was astonished at Her Majesty's grasp of all the details set out in various messages and telegrams
”

In a diary note about the Queen

ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME

Oct 19, 1963, to Oct 16, 1964

Second shortest premiership of the 20th century

The aristocratic former foreign minister Alec Douglas-Home inherited a government "becalmed in a sea of satire and scandal", in Douglas Hurd's phrase, and served as prime minister for just 363 days. During that time he took a firm line with the trade unions, and oversaw the abolition of resale price maintenance, reducing costs for consumers despite opposition from food producers and within the Conservative Party. During his tenure, John F Kennedy was assassinated, and relations with Lyndon B Johnson deteriorated after the sale of British Leyland buses to Cuba. Harold Macmillan famously described Douglas-Home to the Queen as "steel painted as wood".



HAROLD WILSON

Oct 16, 1964, to June 19, 1970; March 4, 1974, to April 5, 1976

Social reform, Vietnam

Harold Wilson won four general elections, and is the most recent prime minister to serve non-consecutive terms. He enacted social reforms in education, health, housing, pensions, provisions for disabled people and child poverty, and set about modernising Britain, aided by the "white heat of the technological revolution". Meanwhile income tax on top earners increased to 83 per cent and by 1975 unemployment had reached 1 million. He kept British troops out of the Vietnam War while maintaining good relations with the US. Faced with successive sterling crises, Wilson was forced to devalue the pound in November 1967. On March 16, 1976, he stunned the nation when he announced his intention to resign.

“
[She was like a] friendly headmaster receiving the head prefect in his study
”

Sir Alec Douglas-Home on the Queen

Harold Wilson's advice to his successor

EDWARD HEATH

June 19, 1970, to March 4, 1974

EC membership, strikes

Ted Heath's premiership included a prolonged period of industrial upheaval and economic decline. Elected on a promise to turn around the nation's fortunes, the power of the trade unions and the rise in unemployment forced a U-turn on the government's economic policy. Attempts to weaken union power failed, and the miners' strikes of 1972 and 1974 inflicted damage on his government, leading to the three-day week, when electricity was limited to three consecutive days' use. Despite Heath's efforts to create a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, his premiership was marked by a bloody period in the history of the Troubles. Heath took the United Kingdom into Europe with the European Communities Act 1972.



JAMES CALLAGHAN

April 5, 1976, to May 4, 1979

Police and housing reform, Winter of Discontent

James Callaghan won the leadership election after Wilson's surprise resignation, but Labour had already lost its majority by the time he took office, forcing him into the Lib-Lab pact. Under his leadership there was the introduction of the Police (Complaints) Act of 1976, which formalised the procedure for complaints, and the Education Act of 1976, limiting the number of independent schools in any one area. By 1976 inflation had hit almost 17 per cent with 1.5 million unemployed. Attempts to reduce inflation through wage restrictions for public-sector workers caused the "Winter of Discontent", a wave of strikes across the winter of 1978 to 1979.

“
What one gets is friendliness but not friendship. Conversation flowed easily and could roam anywhere
”

During a BBC Breakfast with Frost interview in 2002

MARGARET THATCHER

May 4, 1979, to Nov 28, 1990

Miners' strike, Falklands
The "Iron Lady" was the first female British prime minister and the longest-serving PM for more than 150 years. A sluggish economy and high unemployment marked her first years, but her leadership during the Falklands conflict led to a surge of popularity, and re-election in 1983. She pursued a radical agenda of privatisation and deregulation, reducing the power of the trade unions, cutting taxes and introducing market mechanisms into health and education. She also forged a close friendship with President Reagan and gained the trust of the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The miners' strike represented the most bitter confrontation between Thatcher and the unions, leading to the closure of 150 mines and the loss of thousands of jobs.



“
She is a very understanding person... She understood... the rightness of the decision I was taking
”

On telling the Queen of her resignation

**JOHN MAJOR**

Nov 28, 1990, to May 2, 1997

Gulf war, start of Northern Ireland peace process
John Major reversed Margaret Thatcher's deeply unpopular Poll Tax, took a leading role in the Gulf war, and survived an IRA mortar attack on 10 Downing Street during a cabinet meeting. Britain's longest period of continuous economic growth came under his premiership, with the economy picking up after he was forced to abandon membership of the Exchange Rate Mechanism. His government was destabilised by deep divisions within his party over Europe, and by accusations of "Tory sleaze". He also began engaging with the IRA to work towards a peaceful end to the conflict in Northern Ireland, paving the way for the Good Friday agreement in 1998.

TONY BLAIR

May 2, 1997 to June 27, 2007

Peace in Northern Ireland, Iraq war
The longest-serving Labour prime minister, Tony Blair's place in history is likely to be defined by his decision to take the country into the Iraq war. After a landslide victory in 1997 Blair instituted a series of constitutional changes, including Scottish and Welsh devolution, and oversaw the Good Friday agreement. After the attacks of September 11, 2001, he forged a close alliance with the US president George W Bush over the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 and then, in 2003, of Iraq. The case for war rested on the claim that Saddam Hussein was stockpiling weapons of mass destruction. When these were not found, Blair's credibility began a decline from which it never recovered.

**GORDON BROWN**

June 27, 2007, to May 11, 2010

Withdrawal from Iraq, financial crisis
After a decade as chancellor of the exchequer, the longest-serving holder of that office in modern history, Gordon Brown's long, frustrating and occasionally irascible wait to take over from Tony Blair finally ended in 2007. As prime minister, he oversaw the withdrawal of troops from Iraq, and the world's first Climate Change Act. Amid a worldwide financial crisis and the recession that followed, in April 2009 he hosted the G20 summit in London where world leaders pledged to make an additional \$1.1 trillion available to help the world economy. Brown's popularity declined steadily, and in 2010 Labour lost 91 seats, its largest single loss since 1931.

DAVID CAMERON

May 11, 2010, to July 13, 2016

Coalition, austerity and the EU referendum
The election of 2010 produced a hung parliament. After five days of negotiations, the Conservative leader David Cameron formed a coalition with the Liberal Democrats, to become, at 43, the youngest prime minister for 198 years, presiding over the first coalition government since the Second World War. Five years later Cameron confounded predictions and narrowly won a majority. Austerity, the war in Syria and the debate over Britain's future in Europe dominated his time in office. He oversaw the Scottish independence referendum in 2014, and legalised same-sex marriage in England and Wales. The In/Out referendum on EU membership proved his downfall — it led to his resignation.

**TERESA MAY**

July 13, 2016, to July 24, 2019

Brexit negotiations
Theresa May became prime minister after the Brexit vote led to David Cameron's resignation, and found herself in the peculiar position of organising Britain's withdrawal from Europe although she had supported remaining in the EU. Nine of Cameron's ministers were sacked or resigned, and she appointed advocates of Brexit to key positions — most notably Boris Johnson as foreign secretary. She abolished the Department for Energy and Climate Change, launched an investigation to identify racism in the public sector, and affirmed her commitment to maintaining the unity of the United Kingdom. May's first overseas visit was to Germany, where she promised a "sensible and orderly departure" from the EU.

BORIS JOHNSON

July 24, 2019 to September 6, 2022

Brexit and the pandemic
Boris Johnson entered Downing Street with a strong mandate and one overarching task: to extract Britain from the EU. But his time in office was engulfed by the coronavirus pandemic, a medical, social and economic catastrophe. Johnson's handling of the crisis reflected the contrasting qualities that made him the most divisive political figure since Margaret Thatcher: upbeat, amusing and resolute to his supporters; distracted and unreliable in the eyes of his detractors. Scandals accumulated, most importantly "partygate", in which Johnson and other officials were found to have breached Covid-19 regulations. He resigned trailing accusations of cronyism and lying, but still adored by his backers, some of whom privately vowed that he would be back.

**LIZ TRUSS**

September 6, 2022 to present day

Cost of living crisis
Asked to form a government by the Queen at Balmoral just days before the monarch's death, Liz Truss inherited probably the most daunting in-tray of any postwar prime minister: soaring energy bills and inflation, a looming cost of living crisis, war in Ukraine and a deeply divided back bench. Her victory by 57 per cent to former chancellor Rishi Sunak's 43 per cent was the lowest margin of victory since Tory Party members were given the final vote in 2001. She ruled out an early election, and vowed to lead the Tories to a "great" victory in 2024. Having held five secretaries of state roles, most recently foreign secretary, Truss came to power with greater cabinet experience than any prime minister since James Callaghan.

“
There's very little she hasn't seen. In my own experience, there's almost nothing that ruffles her
”

In an interview on the Andrew Marr Show, 2012

“
There is a quite mistaken view of the Queen that she's just a small-c conservative. And that's not true. She's just very protective of the monarchy
”

As told to the reporter Robert Hardman

“
I relied on the Queen knowing what works and what doesn't. Sometimes you go back and change a bit of your speech
”

The night before his budget speech in 2007

“
Above all she has an abundance of what I would call Great British common sense
”

In the limited-edition Diamond Jubilee Opus

“
[May has the] greatest respect for the Queen
”

According to allies of the prime minister

Quoting the Queen after their first audience

“
I've already met the Queen and she's been far too polite to raise that issue with me
”

On her comment, aged 19, that the monarchy should be abolished

Queen and country

Trooping the Colour, 1978



March

Commonwealth Day
On the second Monday in March the Queen and other members of the royal family would attend a colourful "Observance" at Westminster Abbey, with a procession of flag bearers, each flag representing one of the Commonwealth countries.

Maundy Thursday

Every year Her Majesty presented special "Maundy money" to local pensioners in a UK cathedral or abbey, in recognition of the service of elderly people to their community and their church. From 2019 she performed this ceremony in St George's Chapel, Windsor.

Easter

This was spent at Windsor Castle for what is called the Easter Court. The Queen's guests, from different positions in public life, were invited to "dine and sleep". On Easter Sunday the Queen attended morning service at St George's Chapel. Her close family were usually with her.

April

Queen's birthday
The Queen's real birthday, on April 21, was normally treated as a private occasion. Most years she received about 3,000 birthday cards, every one of which she acknowledged.

May

(sometimes other times of the year)

State opening of parliament

The Queen drove in state to the Palace of Westminster to deliver the Queen's speech, a reminder of her role as one of the significant elements of government — Sovereign, Lords and Commons. It was the only time, apart from the Coronation, that she wore the Imperial State Crown.

Royal Windsor Horse Show

A feature of Windsor life since 1943, this five-day show was something she never missed. Until the 1990s Prince and Princess George of Hanover (Prince Philip's younger sister, Sophie) always stayed for the weekend.

Chelsea Flower Show

The Queen visited the show on the Monday evening, before the public opening. It was an occasion for her to invite her personal friends.

Buckingham Palace garden parties

The Queen would entertain a wide cross-section of people from across Britain, walking through

The state opening of parliament, 2009



One of the summer garden parties, 2002



Chelsea Flower Show, 1971



All in a year's work

The royal calendar features a strict round of annual ceremonies and engagements to which the Queen was steadfastly committed, even into her nineties, writes Hugo Vickers



Royal Maundy Service, Canterbury, 2002

assembled guests, with some lined up to be presented. About 40,000 people have attended garden parties. Another was held in Edinburgh at Holyroodhouse in June.

June

The Derby

The Queen would arrive

in a motor procession up the course at Epsom, sometimes to see her own horses racing. regiments. Until 1986 she rode side saddle in the parade; after that she travelled in a horse-drawn carriage, in civilian dress.

The Garter Ceremony (biannually)

The Order of the Garter, founded by Edward III in



Royal Ascot
One of the Queen's favourite events, she and her guests arrived in horse-drawn landaus, circling the Parade Ring on each of the meeting's five days. On Gold Cup Day she gave a lunch in the Waterloo Chamber in Windsor Castle where the table was adorned with racing trophies from previous wins.

Late summer
Edinburgh
The Queen and, until he retired, Prince Philip spent an official week at Holyroodhouse, where engagements included a service for the Order of the Thistle and a garden party.

July-October
Balmoral
Although the government boxes still came, this was also a time for grouse shooting and stalking, riding and entertaining. By tradition the prime minister stayed at the end of August, the visit often coinciding with the Braemar highland games. There were two annual ghillies balls, for those working on the estate, a way for the Queen to thank her Scottish staff.

November
Remembrance Sunday
The evening before, the Queen and the royal family would attend the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. Until 2017, on the Sunday the Queen would lead the nation in the two-minute silence at the Cenotaph, after which she laid the first of the wreaths. Latterly she watched from the Home Office balcony as the Prince of Wales laid her wreath.

December
Christmas lunch at Buckingham Palace
The Queen pre-recorded her Christmas message to the Commonwealth and hosted a large Christmas lunch at the palace for the extended royal family, her way of thanking them for their support.

Sandringham
The family would go to the Christmas Day service at St Mary Magdalene Church, just outside the estate. In January she visited the local Women's Institute, of which she had been a member since 1943.

February
Sandringham
The anniversary of the Queen's father's death on February 6 was marked quietly, before the return to London.



The Christmas broadcast, 2001

1384, is the most coveted order of chivalry in the world.

New knights or ladies convened in the Garter Throne Room at Windsor Castle for the investiture (if there

was one). Lunch then followed in the Waterloo Chamber, and then a procession to St George's Chapel. In Scotland a similar service for the Order of the Thistle involved a procession into St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh from the Signet Library.



Red boxes, investitures, receptions: her life's service to us. By Hugo Vickers

Retirement was not an option for the Queen. Even in her nineties she worked at a pace that was extraordinary for her advanced years. Prince Philip retired just before the summer holidays in 2017, but the Queen carried on, even if she eschewed stairs in public, ceased to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday and extended the time she spent at Windsor Castle.

DAILY LETTERS AND PAPERS
The Queen received 200 to 300 letters a day and instructed her staff how to answer them. She held separate meetings with two private secretaries, going through official papers and documents, including papers on policy, letters and other communications from government ministers and representatives in Commonwealth countries and other foreign nations. During sittings of parliament she received a written report from the House of Commons prepared by the vice-chamberlain of the household, a senior government whip.

AUDIENCES
The Queen regularly received high commissioners and ambassadors, senior members of the armed forces, English bishops and judges. When in London, she had a weekly audience with the prime

minister, usually at 6.30pm on a Wednesday.

ENGAGEMENTS
In 2016 the Queen carried out 341 engagements. By 2019 that had dropped to 295, including opening events and buildings, making speeches, visits to schools, hospitals, military units, factories, art galleries, and local community schemes. If there was an outside engagement before lunch, as many as three venues might be visited, but most engagements took place in the afternoon. In 2021 she carried out 192 engagements, 118 of them virtually.

RECEPTIONS
About 10,000 people attended receptions every year held by the Queen. These were opportunities for her to meet leading figures in different industries, in areas such as tourism, media, the arts, business and exploration. There were also garden parties at which the general public were invited to tea on the palace lawns.

PRIVY COUNCIL MEETINGS
There was about one privy council meeting a month during which everyone stood, by tradition, so that they should not go on too long. All such meetings were private, but at least four privy counsellors had to attend. The lord president of the council was usually there, and

ministers concerned with the issues on the agenda. The Queen in Council validated each measure.

INVESTITURES
About 2,000 people received the Queen's honours every year – from knighthoods to OBEs and MBEs. Most were held at Buckingham Palace, with some at Windsor Castle. They started at 11am and lasted an hour. Recently more investitures were taken by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge or the Princess Royal than by the Queen. For important honours such as the Order of Merit, the recipient was received privately by the Queen.

STATE VISITS
There were usually two state visits to Britain each year, one in the spring and one in the autumn. These mostly took place in London, but were sometimes at Windsor Castle and occasionally at Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. Before a state visit, there was often a reception for notable figures from that country living in Britain.

THE CHRISTMAS BROADCAST TO THE COMMONWEALTH
Televised since 1957, the Queen's broadcast was worked out with her advisers several months in advance. It was recorded shortly before Christmas, usually in a private room in Buckingham Palace.

Queen and country

An honour to meet you, Ma'am —

Even for pop stars at gala events, Hollywood royalty on the red carpet and sportsmen and women on the



▲ The Queen passes ballerinas as she marks the completion of the Royal Albert Hall's redevelopment in 2004

► Meeting Shirley Bassey and other stars at the Royal Variety Performance 1965, at the London Palladium

► Presenting the Jules Rimet trophy to Bobby Moore, the England captain, after his team's World Cup victory over West Germany at Wembley in 1966

► Sean Connery and his wife, Diane Cilento, meeting the Queen in 1967 at the premiere of the Bond film *You Only Live Twice* in Leicester Square



the Queen and her subjects

victor's podium, a meeting with the monarch was always a thrilling moment



▲ Meeting Pierce Brosnan at the premiere of the Bond film *Die Another Day* in Leicester Square in 2002



◀ Welcomed by Paul McCartney to the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts in 1996. She knighted the former Beatle the next year



▼ Backstage with the Spice Girls at the Royal Variety Performance 1997 at the Victoria Palace Theatre in London

Queen and country

Christmas Day — we all stopped

The Queen's festive broadcast was loved by millions, writes **Damian Whitworth**

The Queen! The Queen!" At 3pm on Christmas Day the cry went up in millions of households across the land and families lunched away from the lunch table and flopped in front of the television, glasses in hand, paper hats on heads, to engage in the traditional

ritual of listening to the monarch speak to the nation. Festive broadcasting changed dramatically in the 70 years after her first address in 1952, but her appearances remained a constant in the schedule. The tone was restrained and she avoided controversy, but she frequently reflected the mood of the times and gave glimpses of her emotional life.

And when she disappeared one year there was widespread dismay. In 1969 she thought that with the investiture of Prince Charles as the Prince of Wales and the screening of the documentary *Royal Family* there had been quite enough royal television coverage. The public did not agree.

Her grandfather, George V, delivered the first broadcast, on the radio and written by Rudyard Kipling, in 1932. The idea was suggested by Sir John Reith, the BBC's founder, to salute the beginning of the Empire Service — now the BBC World Service. The Queen's first Christmas broadcast, ten months after she became Queen but before she was crowned, was broadcast only on radio. She modelled it closely on those given by her father and grandfather, even sitting at the same desk at Sandringham.

In 1957 her message was televised for the first time. She hoped that enabling people to see her would make it "more personal and direct" and added: "It is inevitable that I should seem a rather remote figure for many of you. But now at least for a few minutes I welcome you to the peace of my own home."

For the next 40 years the broadcast was filmed exclusively by the BBC. David Attenborough produced the broadcasts between 1986 and 1991. "If there was a technical hitch, she wanted to know what it was, and if it had a funny side, she was quick to see the joke," he recalled last week. "Yet not for one second could you forget that you were in the presence of someone who had willingly accepted enormous responsibility and



▲ The Queen's first televised Christmas message, in 1957

▲ In the music room at Windsor Castle after recording her 2008 message



dedicated her life to serving the nation — that you were, in short, in the presence of royalty." He watched the Queen become "more and more skilled at maintaining a position, maintaining a way of behaving and speaking, and of mastering a brief and doing a job with conviction".

The broadcast tended to follow much the same format: a reference to the big news events of the year, concentrating on Britain and the Commonwealth, combined with the Queen's reaction to events. She worked out the theme with advisers months before and the speech was finalised and recorded several

days before Christmas.

She didn't dodge the big royal news, good and bad. In 1992 part of Windsor Castle was destroyed by fire, Princess Anne divorced and Charles and Diana separated, as did Prince Andrew and the Duchess of York. The Queen had referred to it as her "annus horribilis". In the Christmas broadcast she spoke of a "sombre year" and how she hoped to "put it behind us".

In 1997 she recorded her address in the White Drawing Room in the newly restored Windsor Castle, but spoke of the "unbearably sad" death of Diana. In 2002 came more heartache with the deaths of her sister, Princess Margaret, and the Queen Mother. "Many of you will know only too well from your own experience, the grief that follows the death of a much loved mother or sister," she said. "Mine were very

much part of my life and always gave me their support and encouragement."

In 2018 she referred to the weddings of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, Princess Eugenie, the birth of two great-grandchildren and Meghan's pregnancy (with Archie). "It's been a busy year for my family, with two weddings and two babies — and another child expected soon. It helps to keep a grandmother well occupied."

But in 2019 the absence of a photograph of the Sussexes on her desk was much commented on, only days before they withdrew from royal duties. That was the year she referred to as "quite bumpy", a reference, it seemed, to Prince Andrew's involvement with Jeffrey Epstein, the paedophile who killed himself in 2019.

In what would turn out to be her final Christmas broadcast, last year, she spoke affectionately about the Duke of Edinburgh, who died in April 2021. "Christmas can be hard for those who have lost loved ones. This year, especially, I understand why." Nevertheless, her enduring optimism shone through. Since the death of "my beloved Philip" she had drawn comfort from the warmth of tributes to him and added that "even with one familiar laugh missing this year, there will be joy in Christmas, as we have the chance to reminisce, and see anew the wonder of the festive season through the eyes of our young children, of whom we were delighted to welcome four more this year."

Her absence will change Christmas Day for many of us. This year, when someone happens to look up from their plate of turkey and see that the kitchen clock says it is 2.59pm, it will be time for a new cry: "The King!"

A great honour

The Queen always chose carefully when bestowing orders in her gift, writes Hugo Vickers

George VI was passionately interested in the orders of chivalry. Even during wartime, memoranda would pass between him and his private secretary recommending figures for honours. Queen Elizabeth II was less zealous in this respect, but made a point of being well informed about the recipients who came to be honoured.

Most orders and decorations were recommended by the prime minister, but certain orders were within her

personal gift, including appointments to the Order of the Garter and the Thistle.

When appointments were to be made, the Queen would ask the order's chancellor of the day to suggest five names, and seek advice from her private secretary.

Nearly every year the Queen took part in a Garter ceremony. New companions were invested in the morning, there was a luncheon in the Waterloo Chamber at Windsor Castle, then the

procession walked down the hill. Prince Philip thought that the whole business was nonsensical but appreciated that people enjoyed the spectacle.

The Thistle was reserved for those with Scottish connections — originally establishment figures, Scottish dukes, earls and chieftains, but as the reign progressed distinguished public figures with a Scottish connection were also honoured.

The Royal Victorian Order was given to members of the royal family, the royal household, overseas ambassadors and high commissioners, and in Britain figures such as lord-lieutenants.

The Queen did not hand out orders indiscriminately to her family. Prince Philip hated receiving any honour he had not earned. Despite this he



▲ The Order of the Bath ceremony in 1968

knight of the Garter automatically when he was declared Prince of Wales in 1958. He was given the Order of Merit in 2002.

In 2022 the Queen gave the Duchess of Cornwall the Garter, an unprecedented honour for the wife of the heir to the throne. This and the request that Camilla be Queen Consort were the ultimate confirmations of the Queen's respect for her.

Prince William was appointed the order's 1,000th knight, and given the Thistle in 2012. The Duchess of Cambridge was given a GCVO in 2019.

The Queen saw the merit in the system. In the 1992 television documentary *Elizabeth R* she said people needed a pat on the back from time to time and that it would be a very dreary world otherwise.

was given several, including a GCVO (Royal Victorian Order) on their 70th wedding anniversary.

Prince Charles became a



A day I'll never forget

She entertained thousands of people every year on her lawn, creating memories that will last a lifetime, writes Daniel Finkelstein

We do these things very well," my grandmother used to say when I was a boy and we watched a royal event on television. I thought it was a fitting

comment, it seemed to me true, and I took pride in it. However, looking back, I think the most interesting word in the sentence was "we". My grandmother and father were born in Poland. My mother was born in Berlin and brought up in Amsterdam. So it is interesting that the word "we" came naturally.

I think of King John as being part of my history, even though the truth is that at around the time of Magna Carta, my family was celebrating the crowning of Daniel of Galicia as King of Halych-Volhynia. Give or take 100 years or so.

I think this is part of the Queen's achievement, and her importance. She somehow made a very diverse people — with an incredibly varied history — think of themselves as "we".

The royal garden party was one of the things that my grandmother was talking about when she praised how we do things, but I didn't experience it on the television. I went.

It was almost 20 years ago, when I was working for Conservative central office. I knew I hadn't been selected to go because of any special distinction. The office got some invitations, and it was my turn.

Still, it was nice to get the stiff, embossed card from the lord chamberlain. I would definitely have put it on the mantelpiece if we'd had one. As it was, I left it nonchalantly on the radiator shelf, face up, just in case anyone came to mend the radiator and might be so impressed that they mended it more carefully.

When my wife and I arrived at Buckingham Palace there was a queue to get in. Quite a long one. This was my first clue to something I should have realised earlier. Indeed, I probably knew it, if I had been bothered to think it through. Every garden party has thousands of

▲ A garden party at Buckingham Palace in 1957. About 8,000 guests attended each event

guests. About 8,000 each. Of course they do, or I would not have been invited.

However necessary this may be, it does at first seem a little disappointing — but, as it turns out, it isn't a disappointing event. How could it be? Even walking across the gravel at the palace was exciting. For a garden party to be anything other than a scrum it has to be very carefully organised. And fortunately, it is.

Guests are encouraged to stand in lanes and a number are selected to meet members of the royal family. We were not, but because the Queen was meeting someone close to where we were standing we felt included in the conversation. It was cleverly done.

The whole royal family was present — the Queen Mother, for instance, was there — so we felt part of a special occasion. And after the lanes and collecting tea you could stroll round the gardens.

Watching the Queen work was fascinating. Every encounter was a highlight in the life of the person she was meeting, while, for her, they were just a few moments in the schedule. These were moments that the visitor would never forget, and that she wouldn't have remembered by suppertime.

Yet it never seemed like that. She was supremely professional, warm without being less than regal, interested without exhausting herself with small talk.

I feel very fortunate to have been invited. The sense of being "we" is strong within me.

Queen and country



▲ The Queen inspects pages of newly printed stamps with British stamp printers c 1955

▲ Visiting the penguins at London Zoo in 1990. The Queen returned to open a home for four Asiatic lions at the zoo in 2016



▲ Watching a chemistry demonstration while opening Parminter's School, Watford, in 1981

▼ Princess Elizabeth greets a flag-waving baby boy on a visit to Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham, in 1949



A lifetime spent taking an interest

The Queen's official visits took in factories, museums, hospitals and public attractions. Courtiers prepared her for each visit and she approached them all with her trademark inquisitiveness and good humour



◀ Travelling on the Tube after the opening ceremony for the Victoria line, in 1969

▼ Inspecting a celadon cup in a pottery shop in Seoul, South Korea, during a state visit in 1999

▲ A Cork fishmonger showing off a wild salmon during her state visit to the Republic of Ireland in 2011

▼ Looking at the original royal charter granted in 1608 to the Inner and Middle Temple, London, 2008

▲ The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh sporting 3D glasses during a visit to the University of Sheffield, 2010

▼ Viewing the displays at Legoland Windsor with Prince Philip in 2003



Queen and country

A golden era for the monarchy

As the 21st century dawned the Queen worked hard to restore the royal family's reputation, writes Damian Whitworth



The moment during her long reign when the Queen's ability to reinvent the monarchy for the modern age was demonstrated most cleverly when she starred as a Bond girl. Her agreement to participate in a segment of the opening ceremony at the 2012 Olympic Games with Daniel Craig was a master stroke. As she and 007 appeared to parachute into the stadium, the audience let out a mass gasp audible to the ceremony's global television audience of 900 million.

The neatly edited six-minute film, showing the Queen and Craig in the grandeur of Buckingham Palace, then their stunt doubles throwing themselves out of a helicopter above the stadium, was a fusion of ancient royal mystique with modern wit.

The Queen's reign spanned the television age, but she would not have considered anything so bold even a few years earlier. That she could provide the biggest surprise on a night of theatrical wonders was testimony to how shrewdly the chairman had led the slow, steady rebranding of "the Firm" after years when the share price had been heavily depressed.

When Danny Boyle, the film-maker who directed the opening ceremony, asked if the Queen would take a walk-on part in the James Bond sequence, it seemed an outrageous request. "She was very amused by the idea and agreed immediately," recalled Angela Kelly, her dressmaker and confidante, who acted as intermediary and was given special permission to write a book about her friendship with the Queen in 2019. "I asked then if she would like a speaking part. Without hesitation, Her Majesty replied: 'Of course I must say something. After all, he is coming to rescue me.'"

In later years public satisfaction with the job the Queen was doing was between 86 and 90 per cent, the

sort of figure that elected heads of state can only dream of. This was quite a turnaround from the 1990s, when the monarchy reeled from one crisis to another, the public began to take a dim view and there was a rise in republican sentiment. In 1998, a year after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the public's satisfaction rating, according to Ipsos Mori, was at 66 per cent.

However, the Queen spearheaded a remarkable comeback in the fortunes of her family, securing its place in the future of these islands. As *The Times* put it in a leading article at the time of the Diamond Jubilee: "It is easy to forget, in the summer of 2012, that half a generation ago the royal house of Windsor had stretched the people's patience close to breaking point." In 1992 she agreed to pay income tax. The repairs to Windsor Castle were paid for by opening Buckingham Palace to visitors. The Royal Yacht Britannia was decommissioned in 1997.

Sir David Attenborough, who was born a couple of weeks after the Queen, joked that people often acquire national treasure status because they have been around such a long time. It is true that the Queen's longevity contributed to her appeal. She was on the throne throughout the lives of the majority of her subjects and as the years elapsed there was a growing appreciation of the Queen as a comforting presence. Through financial meltdown, political crisis and coronavirus storm, she was constant, calm, uncontroversial and rarely emotional — unless one of her horses was winning. She ploughed on with her public appearances, private audiences and official briefings.

It is easier for a nation to feel well disposed towards a happy family and as time passed this one looked so much happier. Camilla Parker Bowles was able to marry the heir to the throne and, with her down-to-earth humour and light touch, the Duchess of Cornwall soon proved popular when she accompanied Charles and helped him to appear relaxed.

▲ The Queen had a surprise starring role in the 2012 London Olympics opening ceremony

► The Queen's stunt double parachuting into the Olympic Stadium

►▼ Daniel Craig as James Bond accompanying the Queen in their skit

The 2011 wedding of Prince William to his Catherine, the middle-class daughter of former British Airways employees, was a much-needed feel-good event at a time when the country was mired in the longest period of austerity in living memory. The arrival of George, Charlotte and Louis completed the picture of a fully functional family that has rediscovered its mojo and is a little closer to the rest of the population. George may have been born to live in a palace, but he spent many weekends with his mother's parents, who have proved to be hands-on grandparents in a way that a future king has probably not experienced before.

The marriage of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle, bringing a charming, confident American actress into the Windsor family, seemed at first certain to boost the popularity of the younger generation of royals. However, the strained relationship that developed between the brothers and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex's sudden, seismic decision to retreat from the royal family and start a new life in the US, forced the Queen to address one of the biggest crises of her reign at a time when most 93-year-olds are taking it easy.

She navigated these uncharted waters with the help of a professionalised royal household. Traditionally, the royals may have felt comfortable surrounded by members of the aristocracy, but in recent years her private secretary was Edward Young, formerly a banker, corporate communications executive and adviser to William Hague. His predecessors, Sir Christopher Geidt and Lord Janvrin, were both former diplomats.

Meanwhile, the royal households set about busily embracing social media while not losing their ability to pull off the best old-fashioned pageantry in the world. The Diamond Jubilee in June 2012 was a four-day extravaganza that included a 1,000-strong flotilla of vessels processing down the Thames on a miserably wet day. Onlookers and monarch were united in a



soggy and dogged desire to celebrate the glorious nuttiness of being British. At the celebratory concert Madness sang “Our house, in the middle of one’s street” from the roof of Buckingham Palace. Britain felt like one nation.

Perhaps the greatest indication of the affection in which the Queen was held was seen on her five-month Jubilee tour, which took her to every region of the country. In Exeter she was reunited with people she had met in 1949 when she came to encourage postwar rebuilding. In Nottingham she was greeted by crowds who had queued from 5am.

Her appearances at these relatively low-key events connected the hardest working, furthest travelled monarch the country has known with those she reigned over. Her arrival in everyday life in the country’s towns and cities inevitably made those days extraordinary. In Manchester, she popped into the town hall and triggered “Queen crashes wedding” headlines around the world after she joined two newlyweds minutes after their ceremony.

In 2018, to general astonishment, she gave an interview. She had never granted one before and no one expected her to do so. However, for a documentary on the Coronation she agreed to talk to Alastair Bruce, a royal expert and family friend. It was the Queen as we had never seen her. Reunited with the St Edward’s Crown, she casually weighed it in her hands and examined its precious gems. She showed a wry sense of humour as she described the “horrible” journey “halfway round London” to Westminster Abbey in an uncomfortable gold state coach.

Here was a woman born to a family rooted in the Edwardian age, talking to a 21st-century TV audience, and acutely aware of the importance of staying relevant and connecting with her people despite the challenges that came her way.



Meet the Windsor kings

The Queen created an image of royal stability despite uncertain times, says Ben Macintyre

For a monarch who never said too much, the Queen’s choice of photograph to mark the start of the 2020s spoke volumes. There she was, with three generations of male heirs: Prince Charles, Prince William and Prince George — 71 years old, 37 and six — the direct line of succession pointing to a stable transition of royal power far into the next century.

Yet, like everything associated with the British monarchy, reality is somewhat different from image: the course of the monarchy, and the legacy left by Elizabeth II, is anything but predictable, just as her reign faced unprecedented turbulence and change in her family, her country and the world.

In the second Elizabethan Age Britain emerged as a more fluid, secular, multicultural and fragmented country, the empire was downsized, automatic deference ended. The Queen’s achievement was to appear unchanged through it all, uncontroversial and, except on a handful of occasions, almost entirely unperturbed. In the words of the historian David Cannadine, she was “the perfect symbol for the orderly management, to the extent it’s been orderly, of domestic transformation and international decline”.

She did this by adhering to Walter Bagehot’s 1867 prescription for preserving constitutional monarchy: “We must not let in daylight upon magic.” She never uttered a single controversial remark. We knew almost as little about the Queen’s personality at the end of her reign as we did at the beginning. She sent the odd tweet, she half-opened her heart after the death of Diana, she appeared in the Olympics opening



▲ The Queen with Prince Charles, Prince William and Prince George in an official portrait released in January 2020

▼ The Queen, her son and grandson look on as the six-year-old George stirs a Christmas pudding

ceremony and with Paddington for the Platinum Jubilee, but she never did anything remotely surprising or shocking.

The same cannot be said of her heirs. The daylight poured in on their often troubled lives, revealing scandal, tragedy and internal conflict. Even as that poised photograph was being taken, Prince Andrew was being engulfed by accusations of sexual turpitude,



and Prince Harry and his wife were on the brink of storming out of the world’s most exclusive club.

Elizabeth leaves behind some well-run palaces, full coffers, plenty of healthy offspring and a huge reservoir of public goodwill. The republican movement in this country is nugatory. But part of her legacy lies in this conundrum: can the monarchs who follow her maintain the magic, or do we already know too much about them for them to seem, as Bagehot put it, a “visible symbol of unity”?

King Charles III has long shown a willingness to engage with the world and express his opinions in a way at variance with his mother’s deliberate reticence on just about every subject of interest, most notably politics. He is unlikely to hold his tongue, and curb his sometimes eccentric interests and views. His sons have spoken out on matters such as race and mental health. Harry and Meghan spoke to Oprah Winfrey in an intimate television interview and signed a deal to make podcasts.

We will see a great deal more about and from the royal family in the post-Elizabethan age. The public-private relationship will grow even more tense, as they reject intrusion while demanding relevance, in the strange unwritten pact under which Britain provides a comfortable lifestyle for its revered royals, while ruthlessly invading their privacy and attending their weddings.

The Queen looked serene in that photograph, but she held back the tides of change that might have swept away a lesser monarch by floating just above them. She must have been wondering: “Après moi, le déluge?”

Queen and country

1977 The Silver Jubilee



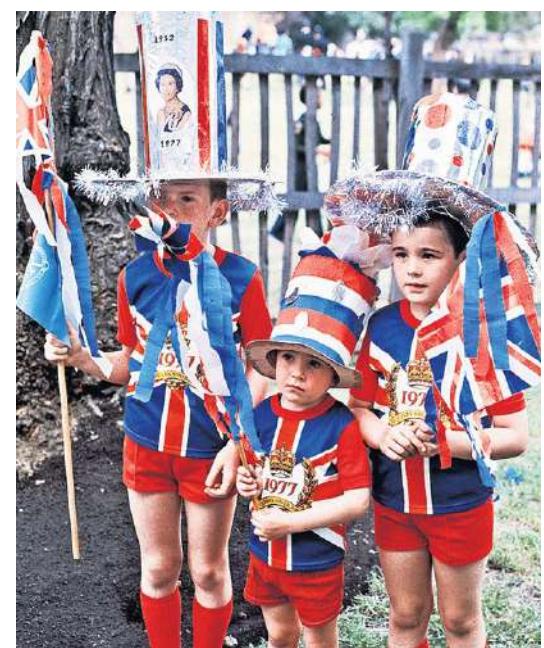
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▲ A joyous scene from a Silver Jubilee street party

► The Queen chats to people in the crowds in London

► Three loyal subjects stand to attention before they tuck into their tea



2012 The Diamond Jubilee



▲ Ashby-de-la-Zouch in Leicestershire celebrating the Diamond Jubilee in style

◀ The Red Arrows fly past as crowds pack The Mall in front of Buckingham Palace

▶ The Queen meeting performers after the concert outside the Palace



Queen and country

A nation galvanised once more

The Platinum Jubilee celebrations showed that the country's affection for its Queen was as strong as ever, writes **Hugo Vickers**

The Silver and Golden Jubilees (in 1977 and 2002) had started in an atmosphere of apathy, which soon changed into glorious enthusiasm. By the time of the Diamond Jubilee, people knew more what to expect. The year of the Platinum Jubilee was different. There had been mounting concern about the Queen's health, and family issues concerning Prince Andrew and Prince Harry. It was hardly the perfect script for a monarch celebrating the unique anniversary of 70 years on the throne. As the year progressed, she dropped out of significant events such as the state opening of parliament. Yet when the long-discussed celebrations began on June 2 there could be no doubt that the 96-year-old Queen could galvanise a nation.

That she only appeared twice in person during the four days of the Jubilee long weekend was testament to her star power. On June 2 Prince Charles led the birthday parade on Horse Guards Parade, but the Queen appeared on the balcony of Buckingham Palace — to take the salute as the troops returned. Wearing lilac and apparently beaming with pleasure, she then witnessed the flypast. Crowds thronged The Mall, way exceeding expectations. The message was clear: the day gave Charles the chance to undertake Trooping the Colour, but the moment the Queen appeared he dissolved into the background, a seamless balance. The other message was that the Queen was accompanied on the balcony only by the members of her family who had supported her and continued to do so during her long reign. That night she lit the first of a series of beacons, in the quadrangle of Windsor Castle.

The Queen was disappointed to miss the national service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral on June 3. Nor did she attend the Derby on June 4, and she was never planning to attend the pop concert that evening outside Buckingham Palace. However, technology enabled her to have a presence, with the inspired filmed vignette in which she had tea with Paddington Bear. It drew roars of appreciation from the crowd, whose enthusiasm showed that the nation's admiration for her was as strong as ever.

Nor did she attend the pageant on June 5. But at the end of a long afternoon the Queen appeared on the balcony, dressed in vivid green, with Charles, the Duchess of Cornwall, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and their three children. Here was a telling image of the future of the royal family — the Queen with her three heirs in direct succession.

The very next day she was seen in a Zoom call at Windsor Castle. She continued to fulfil her duties — to talk to the prime minister and to hold privy council meetings by Zoom, and sometimes to receive visitors. At Windsor Castle she attended to her red boxes. She presided over the investiture of the new Companions into the Order of the Garter and was still out riding her pony Emma in late June. She was then conspicuously present at several public engagements in Scotland after travelling to Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. Some suggested that she made that particular effort to resist the move towards Scottish independence. In early July, in her first public investiture since she knighted Captain Sir Tom Moore in July 2020, she honoured the NHS with the George Cross at Windsor Castle.

And, befitting her pledge to devote her whole life to the service of the nation, she invited Liz Truss to become prime minister just two days before her death.

► Kate Moss, Patsy Kensit and Naomi Campbell in the Platinum Jubilee pageant

► A jubilee street party in York

►► The Queen and Paddington Bear taking tea at Buckingham Palace

2022 The Platinum Jubilee



TIMES PHOTOGRAPHER RICHARD POHLE, JAMES GLOSSOP; SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE; BUCKINGHAM PALACE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



▲ Crowds fill The Mall on the first day of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Queen and country A changing Britain



1953 Coronation

Queen Elizabeth II is crowned on June 2. Parties are held all over Britain to celebrate, lifting the mood of postwar austerity

1955 Terminal Two

On December 16 the Queen opens the Europa Building (later renamed Terminal Two) of London Airport. She says: "Whatever form air travel may take in the future, and we may be certain that striking changes lie ahead, London Airport will, I am sure, continue to grow in importance as one of the world centres of air traffic." London Airport is renamed Heathrow in 1966

1956 Suez Crisis

President Nasser of Egypt nationalises the Suez Canal, which was controlled by French and British interests. Israel attacks Egypt on October 29, supported by British and French troops, with the intention of regaining control of the canal. British and French troops are forced to withdraw soon after, due to heavy international pressure. Anthony Eden resigns on January 9, 1957 as British prime minister after just two years in office amid controversy surrounding the use of military force in the Suez crisis, and ill health



1959 The Mini

The British Motor Corporation launches the Mini, costing £500, partly in response to a fuel shortage caused by the 1956 Suez crisis, when petrol was once again rationed in the UK. The car stays in continuous production until 2000



1962 Buckingham Palace opens

A new gallery at Buckingham Palace is opened to display items from the royal collection. The Queen's Gallery occupies the space of the Palace's bomb-damaged private chapel. It is the first time that parts of the building have been opened to the general public. It is redeveloped and reopened in 2002 for the Golden Jubilee



1965 The Beatles

The Beatles are appointed MBEs by the Queen on October 26. Later John Lennon says: "Although we didn't believe in the royal family, you can't help being impressed when you're in the palace, when you know you're standing in front of the Queen. It was like in a dream. It was beautiful. People were playing music, I was looking at the ceiling – not bad, the ceiling"

1973 Britain joins the EEC

On January 1 the United Kingdom finally becomes a full member of the European Economic Union, after having its membership applications vetoed in 1963 and 1967 by the French president Charles de Gaulle. Two years later there is a UK referendum on continued membership – the electorate votes yes by 67.2 per cent, with 32.8 per cent against

1978-79 Winter of discontent

Widespread walkouts are held by workers after James Callaghan's Labour government attempts to enforce limits on pay rises to curb inflation. On January 22, 1979, public sector workers stage a one-day strike, which is the biggest stoppage in Britain since the 1926 general strike. Rubbish piles up in the streets as dustmen strike. They are joined by NHS workers, teachers, train drivers and grave diggers

1982 Falklands conflict

A ten-week conflict between Argentina and Britain begins on April 2 over British overseas territories in the South Atlantic. The Argentine surrender comes on June 14. On board HMS Invincible at Portsmouth docks, the Queen, Philip and Anne greet Andrew, who has served as a Royal Navy helicopter pilot during the conflict. He arrives with a rose between his teeth



1984 Miners' strike

The prime minister Margaret Thatcher's attempts to close British collieries sparks nationwide industrial action, which at its height involves 142,000 mine workers, led by Arthur Scargill, the president of the National Union of Mineworkers



1990-91 Gulf War

On August 2, the US declares war on Saddam Hussein's Iraq after his invasion of neighbouring Kuwait. Britain's Gulf war operation is named Granby. More than 53,000 troops are involved. The Allied ground assault begins on February 24 and three days later Kuwait is liberated. On February 28 the coalition's attacks against Iraq end



1998 The Good Friday agreement

A peace agreement between Northern Ireland's nationalists and unionists is reached after 30 years of conflict. The agreement sets up a power-sharing assembly to govern Northern Ireland

2003 Iraq war

On March 18 the prime minister Tony Blair wins parliamentary backing to send UK forces into a US-led war with Iraq, despite a rebellion by Labour MPs, and the UK's biggest ever demonstration, against British involvement, held on February 15

2007 Financial crisis

On September 15 Lehman Brothers, the investment bank, files for bankruptcy. The bank had been heavily exposed to the crisis in the US sub-prime mortgage market. Its collapse sends shockwaves through the global financial system. In the UK there is a run on the building society Northern Rock and the government is forced to bail out major financial institutions. A long recession follows



2012 London Olympics

The Queen declares the opening of the London Olympics, after a surprise stunt that sees her being picked up from Buckingham Palace by Daniel Craig playing James Bond, and pretending to parachute into the Olympic Stadium. This follows the extensive celebrations for her Diamond Jubilee

2014 Scotland votes No

Scotland votes No to independence, after the Queen encourages Scots to "think very carefully" about the decision. After the vote David Cameron relays to friends that the Queen "had been purring down the line" *



2015 Longest reign

Elizabeth II becomes the longest reigning British monarch on September 9, surpassing the reign of her great-great-grandmother Victoria

2016 Brexit referendum

Britain votes narrowly to leave the European Union, with 51.9 per cent of voters in favour of Brexit and 48.1 per cent voting to remain. More than 33 million people cast a ballot in the referendum. Theresa May takes over as prime minister after David Cameron's immediate resignation



2020 Covid-19

As the UK prepares to leave the EU, a new strain of coronavirus reaches the country, after an outbreak in the Chinese city of Wuhan. By March the UK is put in lockdown and billions of pounds in rescue packages are handed out. The Queen addresses the nation on April 5, thanking people for following rules to stay at home and promising "we will meet again." It is watched by 24 million people. She and Prince Philip isolate at Windsor Castle. A mass vaccination plan swings into action in December; the Queen and Philip receive their jabs

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The Queen with one of her corgis in 1969. Right: Caitlin Moran in 2016

‘We woke up and everything seemed slightly misty’



Caitlin Moran on the aftermath of the Queen’s death

Does 'That Walkabout' really mean a thawing in this sibling rivalry?

Hilary Rose

So Prince Harry has published his tribute to the Queen and, intriguingly for the couple who've been holding hands since 2016, it's issued in his name only. It's a relief to know that Harry and Meghan manage occasionally to get on with tasks that require two hands, such as typing a tell-all memoir and solo interviews in which you slag off your in-laws.

In his heartfelt tribute Harry writes of the Queen's commitment to duty and service, her grace and dignity, the admiration and respect she commanded on the global stage, all things he might ponder back in Montecito when he has a minute. Still, here we are, and here they are, and this weekend That Walkabout raised hopes that there might be a thawing in the most public sibling rivalry since... Well, I was going to say Cain and Abel, but maybe not.

First there was the hoo-ha over whether Meghan was going to Balmoral, which may or may not have resulted in Harry missing the flight with William, Prince Andrew and the Wessexes. He travelled alone, and Balmoral was proclaimed a spouse-free zone, except for the Wessexes.

If anyone sensed that it was a missed opportunity not to invite

Fergie, with her celebrated knack for saying just the right thing, they kept it to themselves. William and Charles supposedly had dinner together that night at Birkhall, the new King's house nearby, while Harry stayed at Balmoral with everyone else and flew back to London first thing.

As for the walkabout, we can file it under either "hopeful signs of reconciliation" or "four people spend half an hour in a park without looking at each other". Maybe it's both. Apparently it was William's initiative, but Harry had to agree, and no doubt Omid Scobie is lurking somewhere waiting to tell us how gracious it was of him to do so.

There are rumours, predictably denied, that it happened only because H&M were planning a freelance royal walkabout of their own. Certainly, any suggestion that anyone at Frogmore Cottage punched the air and said "Quick! Call the Netflix crew!" is categorically untrue.

On arrival, we were treated to the novel spectacle of Meghan hanging back, briefly, before the couples split up to work separate sides of the crowd. The brothers barely looked at each other. If there was any interaction at all between the sisters-in-law, I must have been blinking.

Meghan schooled her face into a sorrowful, empathetic glance at



Kate, who spent 20 years learning from the Queen, without ever once stamping her foot, shouting, "We can all live a life of service," and flouncing off into the sunset to make money.

Kate seems curiously disinclined to flounce, and in any case missed the sorrowful glance — whether by accident or design who can tell? Perhaps she considered making small talk with a woman who accused her of being horrid on *Oprah*, and who recently made a reference to *Stepford Wives* that no one could describe as thinly veiled, and thought: perhaps not.

Soon enough it was all over and William drove everyone home, including Scobie, locked in the boot, taking notes. I made that up, but he did pop up yesterday to complain bitterly about something to do with uniforms and Harry feeling slighted yet again.

It is perhaps too much to hope that Scobie might fall silent for a while out of respect for the Queen. Either way, Kate is now HRH the Princess of Wales, while Meghan remains the Duchess of Sussex, and in due course we will no doubt hear her imaginative views on why that might be.

In the meantime, a joint walkabout was a show of unity by William that thrilled the crowds and would have pleased his grandmother. Whether he can stomach a repeat performance, and what Harry and Meghan propose to make of it all, remains to be seen.

I do, however, leave you with news of unalloyed joy. Not only has Meghan cancelled an appearance on an American chat show, and yet another joint visit to the UN, where she and Harry were due to share goodness knows what aspects of their combined intellect, she has postponed the next episode of her podcast. It was due out today.

Now, it is true that the threat of it hangs over us. One day soon we will have to sit through more of its simpering, witless narcissism. For today, though, we take the small wins.



The Princess and Prince of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex

Queen's English goes awry

It's a fair bet that many of the world's leaders

will arrive for the Queen's funeral not at Luton on easyJet but by private jet at RAF Northolt. It's on the main road into London from Oxford, and it's from there that Harry and William headed separately to Balmoral.

Before they arrive, I have some advice for whoever's responsible for the electronic billboards along that main road. Most of them have been wiped to feature simply a photograph of the Queen, resplendent in

tiara and jewels, with the dates of her life. A few, though, have not. "Visit Manchester!" they urge. "A city that's story is still being written." Welcome to England, where we can't even speak the Queen's English.

The good grief guide (and how to avoid family conflict)

Julia Samuel, the A-list bereavement counsellor and friend of Diana, Princess of Wales, on how to cope with loss

Being honest as you can about death Often in families, if someone has a potentially life-limiting illness or is nearing the end of life, it isn't discussed. People imagine that if they don't think or talk about their death, or the death of someone they love, then somehow it's not going to happen. It's because we fear what we don't know and can't control. In reality, the more we can have the conversations — are they frightened about death, do they think about it, what do they need? — the more helpful it is. It enables everyone close to you to have much more capacity to manage it and live with it, rather than be terrified by it. (Or fall hostage to their imagination — especially frightening for children of all ages.) It enables everyone to embrace life more fully.

Don't block the pain but do take a break from it

The things you do to block the pain can, over time, be harmful — because it is the pain that is the agent of change. Be aware of what blocks your feelings. It may be numbing yourself with drinking, busyness, over-exercising. To grieve healthily, let yourself examine what you feel. Allow yourself to be sad, and angry. Name the pain. That could be by talking to someone, journaling, finding meaningful ways to remember the person who died. Visceral grief can feel like fear gnawing at you. Being active does help release the intensity of the pain, briefly. It is also important, when you can, to give yourself a break from your distress by doing restorative things. Small children, if properly supported, grieve as if jumping in and out of a puddle. They feel deeply sad one moment, then run off to play with friends the next. Adults too can

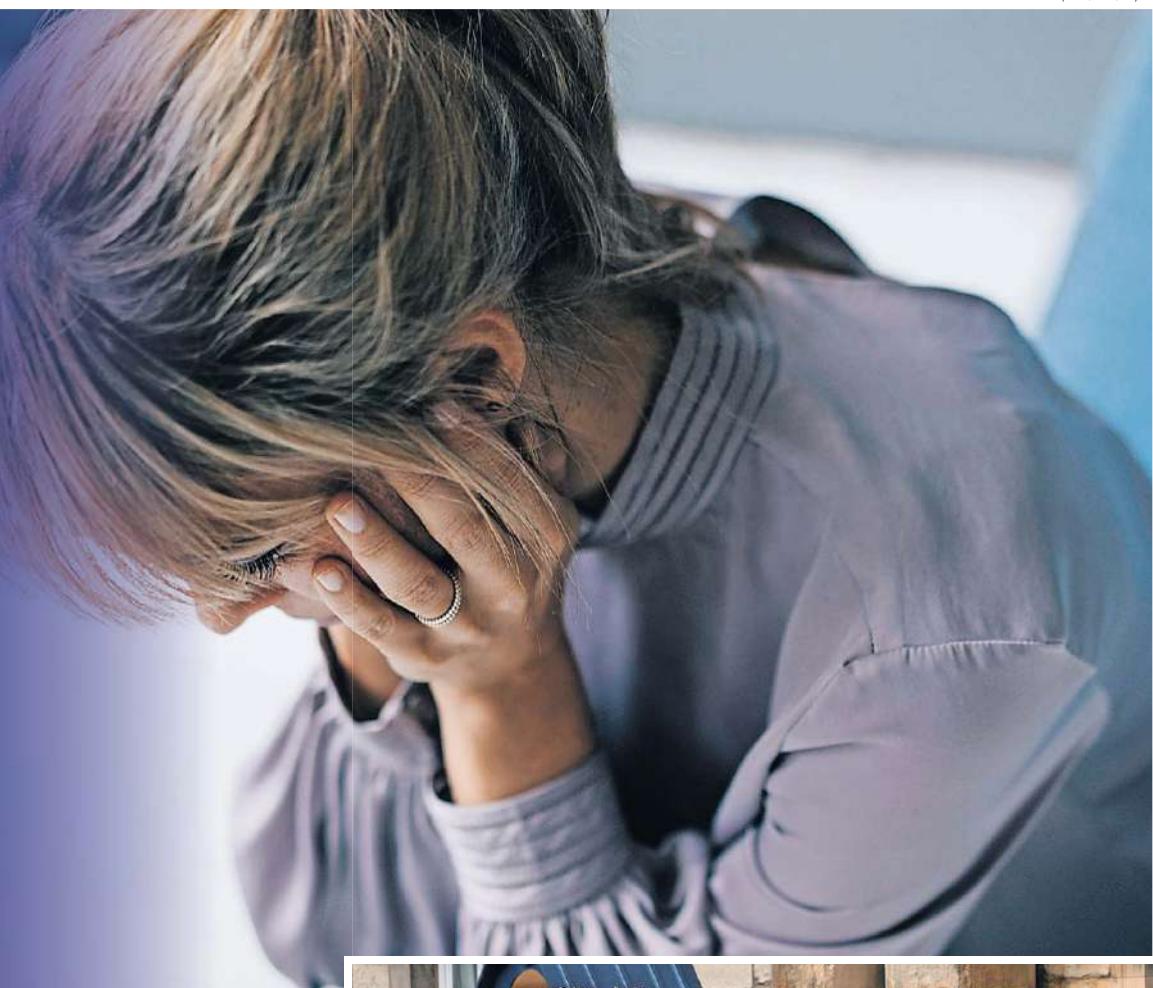
mentally adjust by moving in and out of grief — by oscillating between the horrendous pain of what is lost and everyday life.

How to stop grief from tearing a family apart

In a family, people grieve differently and misunderstand each other, which can cause tension. Everyone will have had a different and personal relationship with the person who has died, and will have their unique way of coping with loss. For some, that will be to cry their eyes out, show a lot of sadness. Another might shut down and withdraw. Another might go out partying. All of those are legitimate ways of grieving. What helps in a family is communicating openly with each other and allowing difference. Don't judge how someone else is coping or call it disrespectful, because the minute we hear the news our default coping mechanism springs into action — we don't have a choice in what that is.

How to avoid family conflict in the aftermath

When a loved one dies, your whole family can feel upended. It takes a lot of work to recalibrate because everyone is struggling with the absence of the person that's died. While they've gone physically, they are strong in the collective memory, and families have to work out how to be together without that person. It can be very painful and cause great conflict. So, if the grandmother commanded everyone's respect, hosted family occasions and had a lot of positive, collaborative power, everyone can feel very lost. As a result, there can be rivalry about who knew best what she wanted, and wrestling over her legacy. This is why talking frankly about their wishes while the person is alive can minimise aggravation — otherwise even the



GETTY IMAGES; AARON CHOWN/PA

funeral can be a battleground.

Also, the question of "who are we now" can be complex and unsettling. When people feel powerless in the face of death, they can act out by trying to grab control, which antagonises everyone. Rather than recognising what they're feeling, and understanding what's motivating their behaviour (they feel powerless, angry, and so want to regain control), they go straight to "I'm going to control this". They're acting out their defence against the feeling. It may cause fights — because others are acting out too. "I knew her best! You haven't seen her for a year!" Try to be self-aware and compassionate. It's hard when you are wild with grief. You have less impulse control, so you're less likely to take a breath, walk away. If you do fight, find a way to repair.

Rituals are an essential part of mourning

Grief is the psychological adaptation to a death, and the task of mourning is to find a way of adjusting to and accommodating this new reality. And the great difficulty and complexity of it is that you feel the pain of loss as a wound, and the intensity of that wound reflects the significance of the person that has died — all that they meant to you, all that you invested in them. And yet nobody can see it. You feel as though you've been stabbed in your heart, your world has tilted on its axis, yet when you walk down the street you look normal.

There's this horrible dissonance between experience and appearance. It's why rituals are so important, they symbolise and externalise what is



often invisible. Mourning rituals, such as the funeral, support our grief because having that memory and focus can help us adjust, incrementally. It can take a long time for us to believe our loved one is dead because our brain is wired to trust that those we love are alive. Every memory tells us so. The process of adapting to their death requires us to provide our brain with new information and memories. Rituals also support our grief through giving us a structure to help us express and remember our love and loss — personally and communally. You might keep a little book on a table, in which people jot down a memory. Or gather for a walk with family, then go for a cosy tea. People might pay for an inscription on a bench in a place that person loved, and meet there, the first Thursday of each month. Find what's meaningful for you.

Allow people to grieve differently — and if you don't know what to say, stick to 'I'm sorry'

People need people, and we need them most when someone we love has died. Our single greatest asset in grief is our love and connection to others. Though

The Princess Royal curtsies alongside her husband, Vice-Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, the Countess of Wessex and the Duke of York as the Queen's coffin arrives at the Palace of Holyroodhouse

Psychotherapist Julia Samuel is the author of *Grief Works: Stories of Life, Death and Surviving* (Penguin Life) and founder of the Grief Works online therapy and support app

not everyone. There will always be people who actually dare say to your face, when a beloved older relative dies, "But they had a good innings!" Believe it or not, they are probably trying to make you feel better by fixing it. They don't realise how upsetting it is to deny or minimise your pain and sadness. If you don't know what to say, simply acknowledge the loss with "I'm sorry."

Develop your own calming toolkit

Grief feels like being thrown onto an alien planet. The rest of the world looks like a place you used to live in but you don't know it any more. In the fright and shock of what has happened our whole system may go into hyperarousal — we're on alert, as if the threatening *Jaws* music is a constant in our head. Acknowledging that we're frightened and sad is helpful, but when we're in panic mode we can't think properly. Intentionally weaving small comforting behaviours into the fabric of our day — outdoor exercise, moving in nature, then coming home and making a cup of tea or hugging a friend, family member or pet — can stabilise us and calm our system. Rather than shrinking, turning in and feeling terrified, you will feel a little calmer. Develop a toolkit of three or four strategies. What do I do that calms me down?

How to help people open up

There are cultural patterns in society around grieving, and unique patterns in families. If your parents didn't cry, you probably don't quite know how to, or if it's OK. You can't force yourself to cry, but consciously giving yourself opportunities to remember the person you loved is helpful.

You can help people close to you to open up too. Rather than interrogating them, you might say how you feel. And then, that allows them, should they wish, to say how they feel.

When trying to talk to someone, it helps if you're not looking directly at each other, so walking the dog, or having a discussion while in the car, can ease discomfort. Watching *The Lion King* prompted one seven-year-old to ask his mother about his grandfather's death. That said, just sitting around the kitchen table, chatting, our feelings can emerge. Words aren't compulsory, though. Place and smell are powerful memory aids — cooking the chicken dish your grandmother used to cook can invoke the sense of her. You can travel miles and years with that smell. It can connect you to the person you loved, and with how you feel.

Guilt is an unwelcome aspect of grief

Survivors' guilt almost always emerges when someone dies. People can torture themselves with what-ifs — What if I'd run? What if I'd gone over? All the what-ifs can haunt you. The great guru of grief, Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, called guilt the "most painful companion of grief". So it's important not to conflate feelings of guilt with the "fact" that you are guilty. It's highly likely that it wasn't in your power to save the person who

died. Guilt comes from a false sense that we have control. It's helpful to acknowledge the guilt, to say, "I feel like I've done something wrong" — but to follow that with rational thinking, "It was beyond my control." Recognise and surrender to that fact.

It's OK to laugh when you're grieving

The reality of grief is that it's composed of conflicting emotions. You can love and hate someone. And you can feel incredibly sad, joyous and grateful all at once. The more clarity you have about the granularity of your feelings, the more you can support yourself in the complex, messy, chaotic process of grief. Grief is never tidy. There's no hypocrisy in people in deep mourning for a relative or friend

“

Allow yourself to be sad, and angry. Name the pain

attending a birthday party and dancing with all their might. There are two aspects of grieving. There's the focus on loss, where you are immersed in pain, and the restoration orientation, where you engage with life and the present.

When someone dies, our work is coming to terms with that fact, but recognising too that your love and your relationship with them continues and never dies. And so we can have touchstones to memory, and acts of memory — of enjoying the music they loved, or cooking their favourite dessert, or wearing a piece of their jewellery, and roaring with laughter at a memory or a silly joke — because that relationship continues. The more we can do to support and allow that relationship and feel the joy and the gratitude that they lived, and were in our life, the more that supports us to feel the pain of their loss.

The strength of our grief for someone we never met can surprise us

Very few people knew the Queen but we all had a relationship with her. For most people alive today, she'd been the monarch their entire life. She has symbolised, in her role as the Queen, the mother of the nation. And while there has been unbelievable change in the last 70 years and she's adapted through her reign, she's been a constant in her sense of duty, service, predictability and stability. Even if we haven't paid her much attention, she's always been a reliable presence. In times of crisis like the pandemic she brings words of solace and wisdom, and we find the goodwill that comes with her comforting. As a nation we all feel a collective grief, and a sense of discomfort, that the world has changed.

It's a normal way to feel because we do have relationships with people we don't know. It helps if you can allow yourself to express your feelings, and support yourselves. Also, times of collective grief can trigger emotions and memories around unresolved grief in your own life. There is the idea that you can't cry someone else's tears: that while we are sad about the loss of this public figure, the grief we feel can touch our own personal losses too. As told to Anna Maxted

times2

There is no revolution — but

Is this the most sensible reaction ever to the death of an iconic public figure, asks Caitlin Moran

Yesterday morning, 7.30am, BBC Breakfast. “A little bit of advice from the Royal Parks,” said the reporter Sally Nugent, dressed sombrely in black outside Buckingham Palace. Her tone was slightly awkward and apologetic. “They are suggesting that there are enough Paddingtons and marmalade sandwiches in the Royal Parks right now. Please feel free to bring flowers — but enough marmalade sandwiches and Paddingtons for now.”

We had previously seen footage of British children reverently leaving sandwiches — usually in a neat, branded Ziploc bag, very middle class — and Paddington Bear toys either outside the gates of the Palace or in the official “Floral Tribute Area” in neighbouring Green Park. Presumably, those carefully monitoring the situation had decided this was now tipping over into a “potential rat problem” scenario, and that London’s rats, on some kind of WhatsApp group — WhatsRat, maybe — were being alerted to some kind of Snack Bonanza. Clearly, the fear was that by night-time rats as big as badgers would be invading London’s public spaces and feasting on Queen Elizabeth II’s delicious marmalade memorial.

That this, so far, has been the biggest worry about the public’s reaction in the wake of Her Majesty’s death is indicative of how different things are compared with the death of Princess Diana, when the air seemed borderline revolutionary — a sea of sickly, slowly rotting Cellophane’d flowers appeared outside Kensington Palace, and no one seemed to know exactly what to do. People kept crying. The headlines in the newspapers shouted: “YOUR PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING, MA’AM”.

This time around, as befits both the sheer amount of time this event has been prepared for and the sturdily practical personality of Queen Elizabeth — with her two-bar heaters and Tupperware — everything is very... orderly. Quite inspiringly orderly. The people aren’t suffering. There is no revolution. Instead, this is, quite possibly, the most sensible reaction ever to the death of an iconic public figure. This is no sudden, destructive electrical news-storm. Instead, it’s like waking up and finding that everything is slightly... misty. Normal life in this country has been covered in a slight, and not entirely unbeautiful, dew. It’s fascinating to observe this altered state, to see how we actually feel about it. I cannot be sad about someone who had such an



excellent, long life — but I am fascinated to see what changes now: what was she holding fast? What disappears, or transforms, now she’s gone? We all regularly sang a song wishing her to long live, and long reign over us. I guess the song worked. So — what song do we sing now?

The day after the Queen’s death I went into the centre of London, to just kind of see how Britain was reacting. See how the guys were getting on. Every electronic billboard — at bus stops, in the windows of William Hill and Greggs — has a black and white picture of Queen Elizabeth looking noble, and presumably wondering why she is in the window of Greggs. For those who are finding her death emotional it is, perhaps, a little overwhelming. At midday on Friday I went to get a black cab from the taxi rank outside the British Museum, only to find the driver, a man in his fifties, in floods of tears. I had accidentally interrupted him in the middle of the two-minute silence in Her Majesty’s honour with my blithe: “Buckingham Palace, please!”

In a suitably British manner, I apologised to him repeatedly all the way round Trafalgar Square. I presume his solid, angry silence was him attempting to continue his vigil on a now ad hoc basis.

Outside Buckingham Palace, in the sunshine, I seemed to be similarly surrounded by people not mourning but also just coming to see how everyone else was reacting. There have been some complaints about people coming to take selfies outside the Palace — some find it distasteful — but it’s not as if people are throwing heavy metal “Satan” hand gestures. Selfies are, simply, the modern diary

entry: it’s how you remember what you were doing on a certain day. In ten years’ time these pictures will come up on Timehop and everyone will marvel at how young they looked when the Queen died, and how weird and old-fashioned their hair looked on the day they entered the Carolingian Era. Selfies turn into “family history” very quickly — as-yet unborn children will marvel that Mum was actually there when King Charles left Buckingham Palace for the first time in a car with the Royal Standard fluttering at the front. A respectful “oooh!” went up as the car went past. One young man shouted, “God save the King!” — then immediately looked surprised at how odd the words sounded in his mouth. His subsequent, slightly shocked giggle was the true, unrehearsed sound of Britain adjusting to this newness.

Tentative, warm laughter was pleasingly common: it was the reaction to a group of teens walking down the Mall, all carrying flowers but also wearing jaunty gold cardboard Burger King crowns. They got repeated, amused nods from the crowd. Everyone seemed to get that the crowns were the most “royal” thing these kids could find on the way up town, and it seemed like a suitably whimsical reaction to the woman who jumped out of a helicopter at the Olympics, bloomers billowing.

Whimsical — and sensible.

Caitlin Moran and, below, as the Queen for an earlier piece

This is the mood — with sensible, of course, winning. The longstanding plan for the royal train to carry the Queen’s coffin down to London, with mourners expected to throw flowers in front of it, was quietly nixed: I presume because it just seemed too dramatic. All the flower action is, instead, orderly: in Green Park, the official “Floral Tribute Area” is very efficiently signposted.

A marquee has been erected, with trestle tables and pairs of scissors — “so people can remove the plastic wrapping”, a volunteer explained. These flowers can now biodegrade quietly; no grim pockets of slime in Cellophane this time around. It is the same calm, clockwork orderliness that accompanies every village fête, local dog show or WI meeting across the country, and it is, I would argue, our greatest national sport. This period of public mourning has turned out to be gentle, heartfelt and as reassuring as every middle-aged woman’s favourite pastime, when feeling stressed: walking around the linen department of John Lewis, just feeling all the folded sheets and towels.

The Royal Parks and the BBC have gently nudged us, and now — with quiet obedience — we’ll take our sensibly wrapped sandwiches and silly bears somewhere else. I’d like to think that the same redoubtable person who thought to provide the marquee, and the scissors, will suggest, respectively, food banks and Great Ormond Street. Because we are a country that likes a sensible, practical plan — and if we can smile while we carry it out, all the better. Whatever else might change, that, at least, remains the same.

“Everything is very... orderly. The people aren’t suffering



let's see what will change

COVER: ROBERT WILSON FOR THE TIMES MAGAZINE. BELOW: GREY HUTTON FOR THE TIMES; GETTY IMAGES



Robert Crampton

We aren't all in mourning — this is a piece of history

Now I know how non-sport fans feel when the hype and hysteria build around an England football match. For sure, 20 million of us tune in. Which means 47 million don't. When I read about "a national outpouring of grief and sadness", I'm sorry, but I don't feel it. I suppose, from a staunch republican, you would expect nothing else. But not only do I not feel this grief, I don't see it either. Beyond my own non-reaction, I simply do not recognise the supposed national mood as it is being described in the media.

I spent yesterday morning and Sunday afternoon on the Mall, at the Palace and patrolling around St James's Park, and I didn't see one person in tears. Not one. I think we're more sensible than that. When a 96-year-old dies, even if it's your own granny, we know that the occasion does not call for Old Testament weeping and gnashing of teeth. Raiments are not rended. Instead, you say things like, "She had a good knock," "A life well-lived," and, all too often — although happily not in the Queen's case, as far as I know — "It came as a merciful release."

And that, I submit, was the prevailing mood at the Palace. Yes, you can always find somebody who is visibly distressed about anything.

If, say, Peterborough United get relegated, the cameras will zoom in on a kid in tears. Just as I found a couple who'd flown in specially from California. And a family — mum, dad and three girls — all in matching "You will stay in our hearts" blue T-shirts, the girls with Union Flag ribbons in their hair. But the girls weren't noticeably upset; instead, they looked expectant, excited to be up west and, after half an hour looking through a safety barrier at very little, a bit bored.

A smattering of women were ostentatiously clothed all in black, one sporting a veil, going for the sexy gangland widow look. A few men opted for the full black-tie *Reservoir Dogs* mourning rig. Some I put down as honest sticklers for tradition, quite possibly veterans. Others, with their orangey tans, I reckon were mere narcissists. Four teenage girls, all fake lashes and *Love Island* stilettos, tottered along, a single red rose clutched in one hand, a selfie stick in the other, Instagram grids about to undergo some heavy curation. Hearing one ask another what a coronation was, I sensed a discussion of the merits of constitutional monarchy versus an elected head of state would not be productive.

Yet these photogenic standouts were unrepresentative. They formed a fraction of the considerable (yet not vast: you could walk the length of the Mall almost to the Victoria Memorial before humanity pressed in too close) crowds on both days. I'd like to say, for my own republican purposes, that the numbers were small and the attendees weird or freakish or palpably insane. But it wouldn't be true. Support for a republic hovers around 25 per cent in the UK, although it is considerably

higher among the young. The numbers are inching up, and I fully expect that our day will come, yet undeniably — for the moment — we're in a sizeable minority.

There was a decent cross-section of modern Britain (plus an awful lot of American, French and tourists from the Far East). Young and old, retired couples, younger couples with families, white, brown and black. Dapper chaps leading tiny dogs. Big-bellied bald blokes with lots of tats and lots of kids. Young mums pushing prams, talking about schools. Ladies who lunch from further west, clutching sunflowers and bitching about their husbands. The vibe was part paying respects, part "I was there", part taking in the spectacle.

The dress was warm-weather smart casual: no football shirts, but lots of shorts and T-shirts and trainers. All neat and clean. Nobody under the influence of drink. Hardly anybody smoking. Hushed voices, rueful smiles, subdued banter about the bossy supervisor manning the pedestrian crossing halfway up the Mall. By 2022 standards, the Brits were making a stab at decorum.

Maybe the throng wasn't entirely representative, on reflection. I didn't see anyone obviously poor. There were more women present than men, and fewer black and Asian Britons than the racial make-up of London ought to generate. And most of the non-tourists were from London or the southeast, which of course you would expect — because of convenience but also because royalist sentiment declines the further north you live. Yes, many Scots turned out on the route on Sunday. But if you live in a village between Balmoral and Edinburgh, I don't imagine your life is so eventful you

can afford to draw the curtains if a royal cortège is passing through. Meanwhile, one think tank poll in May registered only 45 per cent of Scots in favour of a monarchy.

On Sunday there was a mood of "we thought we'd bring the kids to have a look, it's history, it won't happen again for ages, it's a spectacle. They're back to school tomorrow". You could say the same of a solar eclipse. Of royalist fervour, there was little sign. No one spouted any guff about "the soul of the nation", as several commentators did in the weekend papers. On Monday the crowd was more office workers popping through the park in their lunch hour.

And why wouldn't you? Handsome soldiers in red tunics and bearskins, drums muffled in black crepe. Horse Guards trotting along, sabres drawn, magnificent mounts in perfect step, black blankets like extra-furry bath mats under the gleaming saddles. Bobbies on motorbikes, Range Rovers with blacked-out windows turning into Clarence House. Pearly kings and queens strutting through Admiralty Arch. The massed Union Flags shining in the sunlight. It was a charming, reassuring scene, like a massively scaled-up and more tasteful village fair, done on a serious budget.

At one point, a susurration rippled along the railings: something was happening... could it be the King? Well, it could, but it wasn't. It was a Colicci coffee van being towed into place. Later, much excitement preceded the arrival of a Royal Parks pick-up truck. I covered the same territory 25 years ago in that febrile week between Princess Diana's death and her funeral. Then, there really was an outpouring of grief. And shock, of course, at a young mother meeting a violent end. The atmosphere a quarter century later was nothing like it was in September 1997. It's the difference between someone dying at 36 and someone dying at 96.

I'm not a hair-shirt republican. I like a bit of pageantry as much as the next Brit, although I do think some of the heralds' tabards need a bit of a 21st-century revamp, they're starting to look very silly. I consider myself a patriot, and as such I like my compatriots, by and large. I didn't feel uncomfortable among the people at the Palace. And yet, on the serious constitutional issue in question, the accession, we part company. The separation is not really about degrees of sadness for an individual, it's about degrees of respect for an institution. They love it. I want to see it come tumbling down.

Because the truth is that many — if not most — of my fellow Brits are feeling something I'm not feeling, which is reverence for the late Queen and the new King precisely because she was Queen and he is King. The crowd was super-keen to say "King Charles" at every opportunity. They loved the novelty of the switch, but also the continuity it represents. A large chunk of my country seems to revel in self-abasement, and is then delighted to present this subservience to the world as something magical. I wish I knew why we do it, but I don't. It's a continuing mystery to me.

health

On the snacking rollercoaster again? How to control your blood sugar

Energy slumps, food cravings, bad sleep — the experts explain how diet and lifestyle can affect your health, and put you at risk of type 2 diabetes. By **Peta Bee**

Everyone experiences their blood glucose levels fluctuate on a daily basis, but chronically elevated ones caused by sugars lingering in the bloodstream are unhealthy and signal a greater risk of developing type 2 diabetes and heart disease. To help keep blood glucose within a healthy range, here's what you need to know.

What are healthy blood sugar levels? "A healthy 'fasting' blood sugar level — ie before a meal — is around 3.5 to 5.4mmol/l [millimoles per litre]," says Roy Taylor, a professor of medicine and metabolism at Newcastle University. "After meals sugar levels rise for a few hours, but ideally not over 8mmol/l." We should aim to stay within 3.9 to 6.7mmol/l to minimise huge swings or limit glycemic variability. Continuous blood sugar monitors that link to apps are available, but Taylor says they should not become an obsession. "They are not necessary, although any adult with

a family history of type 2 diabetes or the risk factors should have an annual fasting blood sugar test at their GP."

Are you at risk of type 2 diabetes?

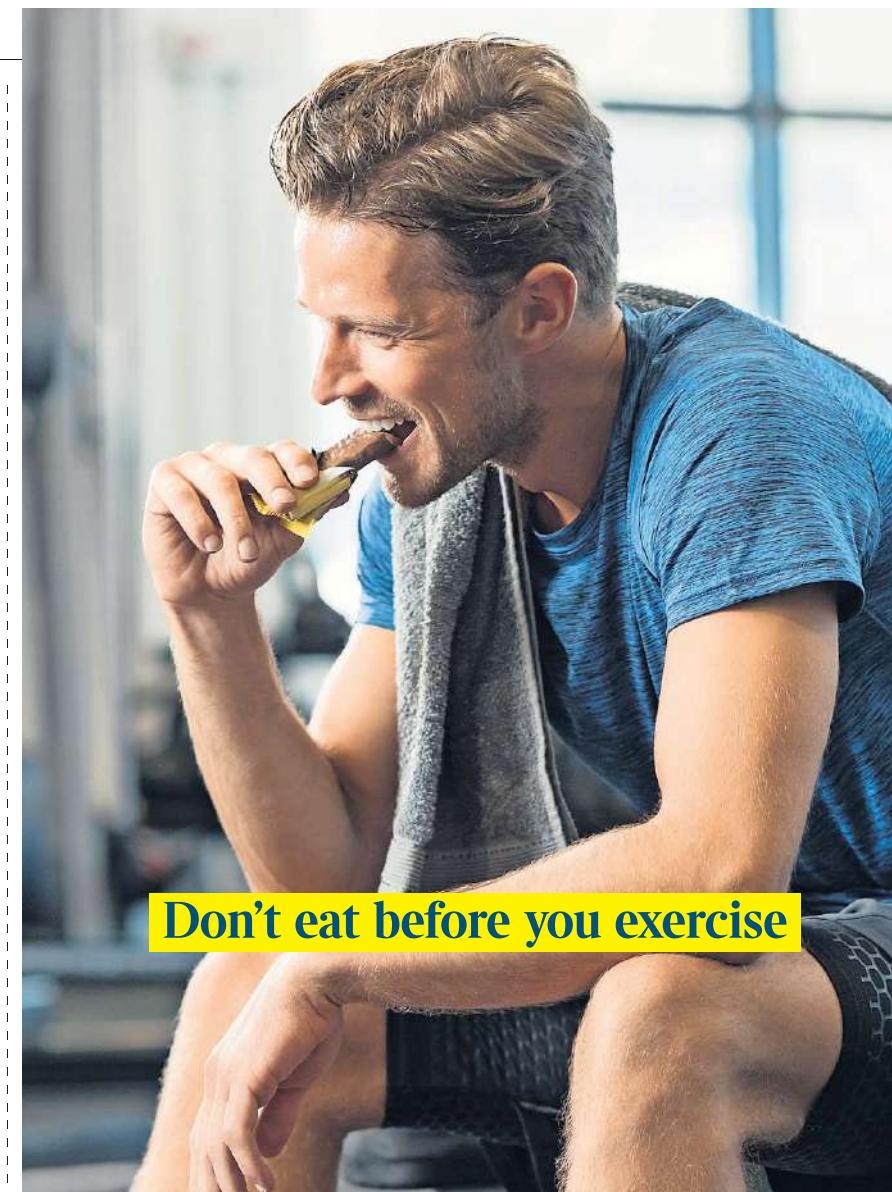
Age, carrying extra weight — particularly around the middle — and being inactive increase the risk. You're up to six times more likely to get type 2 diabetes if it runs in your family, and if you are white and over 40, or African-Caribbean, black African or south Asian and over 25, the risks rise.

"Making the right dietary choices and including plenty of fibre and wholegrains but less processed carbs, and whole fruit instead of fruit juice, can help to prevent type 2 diabetes, but you need a healthy lifestyle overall," says Rhiannon Lambert, a dietitian and author of *The Science of Nutrition*. Type 2 diabetes raises the risk of long-term damage to the blood vessels, kidneys, eyes and nerves.

Your blood test figures should be 42

You can request a blood test from your GP. "When the body is unable to use glucose properly, any unused glucose in the bloodstream sticks to red blood

“Big dippers’ experience a sharp drop in blood sugar two to four hours after eating



Don't eat before you exercise

cells or haemoglobin," Lambert says. "To diagnose diabetes, levels of this glycated haemoglobin (HbA1C) are usually tested to give an average score over a period of two to three months, and high HbA1C indicates high risk diabetes (HRD) or type 2 diabetes."

An HbA1C between 42mmol/mol (6 per cent) and 47mmol/mol (6.4 per cent) is considered a risk.

Emma Elvin, a senior clinical adviser at the charity Diabetes UK, says: "Anything of 48mmol/mol or above is diagnosed as type 2 diabetes — but tests should be repeated if there are no symptoms."

What is prediabetes?

Prediabetes, also called non-diabetic hyperglycaemia or borderline diabetes, is when your blood sugars put you at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes. For some people, Elvin says, "lifestyle interventions, including diet, physical activity and sustained weight loss, can reduce risk by about 50 per cent."

It has no symptoms, so if you feel tired as your body can't get enough glucose into your cells, go to the toilet more often, especially at night, lose weight without trying, get blurred vision or feel unusually thirsty — you may already have type 2 diabetes.

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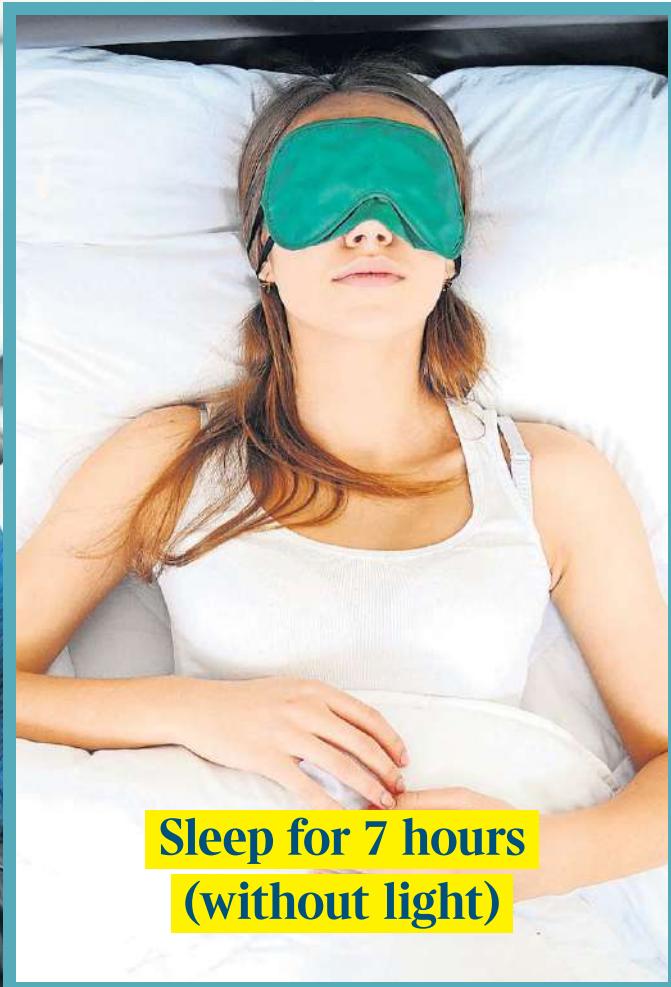
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Sleep for 7 hours (without light)

Why do I get a mid-afternoon slump?
Blood sugar spikes after eating and most people experience a dip in the hours that follow. But how much of a slump you experience is highly individual, with each of us responding differently to constituents of foods.

"About 50 per cent of our blood sugar response is genetic, but the rest is modifiable through lifestyle," says Dr Sarah Berry, a reader in nutrition at King's College London and one of the researchers on the Predict nutritional trials, one of which looked at blood sugar responses to meals in more than 1,000 people over two weeks. Some people, it transpires, are "big dippers" who experience a sharp drop in blood sugar two to four hours after eating, leaving them tired.

Berry says the best approach is to "play around with different types and timings of food at lunchtime" and to track how they affect your energy levels.

Are diet drinks any better than sugary drinks?

A recent study in *Cell* journal found that four sugar substitutes — aspartame, sucralose, saccharin and stevia — altered the gut bacteria profile of participants over two weeks. Two of them, saccharin and sucralose, caused unexpected blood sugar spikes. Results were "highly personalised", but those who consumed saccharin, which is found in toothpastes as well as diet foods, displayed higher levels of an amino acid that mirrored a typical response in people with diabetes.

Jotham Suez, the assistant professor



Choose the right snack

generally considered to have greater physiological benefits, including blood sugar control, for most healthy people.

"Snacking in itself is not bad for you, but if it becomes a habit, replaces meals, or if you snack on the wrong things, it is never a good thing," Lambert says. By this she means snack choices such as refined carbs and sugar that will send blood sugar soaring for a quick hit of energy. "This is inevitably followed by a crash that will leave you even lower in energy and craving more energy-dense, sugary food. That can start a snacking rollercoaster when you reach for the biscuits again to get another boost."

If you really do need a snack, choose carefully. "Eating the right type of slow-release carbs such as vegetables, fruit and wholegrains or a plain yoghurt will keep you off the rollercoaster," she says.

Which foods are best?
The glycaemic index (GI), a ranking of the rate at which the body breaks down a food to form glucose or sugar, typically ranks sugary and

processed foods as higher GI and wholegrains as lower GI. Those with a GI above 70 will rapidly raise blood sugar levels, whereas foods with a GI of 55 or lower tend to increase blood sugar more slowly. It's not foolproof, and doesn't take into account when the food is eaten, whether it follows another food or whether a food is consumed in isolation.

A recent study presented by Mindy Patterson, an associate professor of nutrition at Texas Woman's University, was the latest to suggest that GI is not an entirely reliable predictor of how foods affect blood sugar levels. Patterson showed that in people with prediabetes there was wide variation

in molecular microbiology at John Hopkins University who led the study, says the sweeteners seem to impair the ability to control blood sugar levels after eating. Last week a study tracking more than 100,000 adults for nine years showed that those who ate or drank the equivalent of 43mg of aspartame daily, the amount in about 100ml of diet drink, were 23 per cent more likely to have a stroke.

"These food additives, consumed daily by millions of people and present in thousands of foods and beverages, should not be considered a healthy and safe alternative to sugar," the researchers concluded in the *British Medical Journal* report. "Water is the best drink all round," Taylor says. Unsweetened tea, coffee and herbal teas are also options.

Is snacking bad?

Eating two to three regular meals a day, allowing several hours between them for digestion, and consuming larger meals earlier rather than later is

in participants' glucose responses to different foods. "People think, well, if I consume this food that is low GI it's going to be healthier for me when, in essence, you don't know how you're going to respond," she says.

Yet most experts agree that GI has still its uses. "It's an indicator and should never be considered the be-all and end-all," says Dr Linia Patel, a dietitian and spokeswoman for the British Dietetic Association. "So many things about a food can affect blood sugar levels, including how it is eaten — if some protein, such as milk or cheese, is added to a high-GI food such as potatoes or white rice, it significantly changes GI."

Similarly, potatoes and pasta eaten cold or cool have a lower GI than hot versions of the same foods. "Very broadly, GI remains useful in that if we choose low GI we eat more pulses, nuts, seeds, fish and vegetables and less refined products," Patel says.

Try to eat your last meal before 7pm
During the day the pancreas increases its production of the hormone insulin, which controls blood sugar. It slows production at night. For this reason, consuming your last main meal by 6pm to 7pm appears to be the best move for healthy blood sugar control.

Last year a team from Harvard Medical School and the Medical Chronobiology Program at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston showed how night-time eating raises blood sugar levels by 6.4 per cent.

Should you eat before exercise?

For general fitness, a pre-breakfast exercise session could pay off, says Dr Javier Gonzalez, a reader in the department for health at the University of Bath. In a six-week study he found that exercising on an empty stomach results in greater adaptations in the muscles, leading to longer-lasting improvements in our blood sugar control. "We think this is related to the fat we use during exercise before breakfast. When we increase the amount of fat we burn, this keeps the fats within our muscle turning over more quickly. Stagnant pools of fat are thought to be a bad thing for our blood sugar control."

You may need a top-up

Our bodies have limited supplies of glucose, stored in the muscles and liver as glycogen, and in prolonged endurance activities, typically lasting longer than 90 minutes, stores will run out — topping up before that point with sports drinks or energy gels is essential. But for activities under an hour, consuming anything other than water is usually unnecessary, says Anita Bean, a dietitian and author of *The Complete Guide to Sports Nutrition*. "During the first hour of exercise most of your energy comes from muscle glycogen stores," she says.

Sleep for seven hours (without light)

A lack of sleep or interrupted sleep has been shown to worsen how well cells respond to insulin; studies show that those who get six hours or less a night are more likely to have type 2 diabetes.

Even the light from a smartphone can affect blood sugar. In a recent study, researchers at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago found that sleeping next to a 100 lux light (equivalent to a smartphone screen) caused a drop in blood sugar control among participants by the next day.

Three ways to repair your knees

1 Consider exercise over surgery

Surgery is often considered the only option for serious knee injuries such as cruciate ligament tears, but a new study in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine* suggests in many cases it is not necessary to go under the knife.

"From our new meta-analysis we show that there are no clinically relevant differences between early surgery and rehab with exercise," says Professor Daniel Belavy, lead author of the paper from the University of Applied Sciences in Bochum, Germany. In addition, he and his team found that ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) surgery had no protective effect against future knee osteoarthritis and that "a significant improvement in knee function could be achieved" with exercise just as well as with surgery.

"Carefully structured exercise rehab with a professional is the way forward," Belavy says.



2 Try self-massage for the knee

It's important not to stress injured knees while they are healing, and gentle strengthening techniques can be the first step to recovery, says the osteopath James Davies, author of *Body*. "Massaging and working the quadriceps at the front of the thigh can address the root of many knee injuries," he says.

To do this, sit on a chair with feet on the floor and place both hands on one knee above the joint, wrapping fingers around the back of the knee so that thumbs are at the front of your legs. Grip the area above the kneecap with the thumbs and bend and straighten the knee 8-10 times. Repeat on the other knee.

3 Walk and do tiny squats

Walking is one of the best ways to help to prevent knee pain and aid recovery since any movement helps to heal a joint provided that it doesn't cause pain, Davies says.

You should also add some mini squats when you are strong enough and your knee is healing. "These are not squats as you know them, but from a standing position bend both legs only by about 20 degrees for 6-8 repetitions," he says. "This very small amount of movement will help to lubricate the joint. Increase the depth only when your knee gets better and there is absolutely no pain."

Peta Bee

arts

Sophie Thompson has an entirely smooth head. OK, on closer inspection, as I speak to Thompson on a Zoom link to the Nottingham Playhouse, it turns out that she has nothing of the sort.

Instead, this great character actress is wearing a cap prior to sticking on her wig to star alongside Adrian Scarborough in the first stage adaptation of Alan Bennett's 1998 novella *The Clothes They Stood Up In*.

Nonetheless, over an hour's conversation as she sits in the theatre, stagehands striding past looking purposeful as the show eases into its final rehearsals, the eye-catching headgear comes to rather suit Thompson's eccentric, thoughtful, friendly, bemused, defiant attitude to everything from Bennett to her role in Mackenzie Crook's sitcom *Detectorists* to assumptions about her famous family (most of all older sister, Emma).

Thompson, 60, isn't world-famous like Emma, doesn't always play the lead as she does in *The Clothes They Stood Up In*. She's one of those performers you are always glad to see, though. On stage she can make you laugh and cry at the same time, as she did as Miss Adelaide in the West End revival of *Guys and Dolls* in 2016, say, but make it all feel easy as pie.

In films she provided one of the weddings in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, including being seen copulating with David Haig by Hugh Grant hiding in a cupboard; appeared in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1* and *Gosford Park* (as did Scarborough) and alongside Johnny Vegas in the 2019 horror film *Tales from the Lodge*. On television, her work includes stints on *EastEnders* and *Coronation Street*, plus turns in *Poirot*, *Sex Education*, *Doc Martin*, *Death in Paradise*, *Inside No 9*, *Ghosts*, *Sandylands* and a victorious stint on *Celebrity MasterChef*.

In fact, so expert is she at playing quirky, heartfelt comical roles that it comes as a surprise to discover that this is Thompson's first involvement in anything by Bennett.

She plays Mrs Ransome, who goes to the opera with her music-crazed, punctilious husband (Scarborough) one night then returns home to their flat in St John's Wood in north London to find that every last item in that flat has been painstakingly removed. What follows is the sort of comic yet painful parable that feels pure Bennett, even though it's Scarborough rather than the author himself who has adapted it for the stage.

"Alan must trust Adrian implicitly," she says. Bennett has left them alone during rehearsals and she doubts he will come to see it. "I don't think he's going to do that sort of travelling."

Her character comes to feel freed by losing her possessions. Thompson isn't sure she would feel like that herself, although she and her two sons — Ernie, 25, and Walter, 22 — did have the experience a couple of years ago of moving out from the family home she had once shared with her ex-husband, Richard Lumsden. "I'm a recycling girl, a charity shop sort of person, that's me. I quite enjoyed that feeling of lightening the load."

Some people, I suggest, recreate the sensibility of their previous home wherever they move to. Not possible for her, she says, having moved from her north London house to "an attic". That said, she adds, she's lucky to have



Thompson with Adrian Scarborough in *The Clothes They Stood Up In*

we didn't bump into each other in that way because we always approached things with such a different... rhythm. It's funny, people always want to make comparisons, and when you have your own children you realise just how fabulously different they are.

"I think she is extraordinary and always have since I was little. Just how we did our rooms and the things we liked and the clothes we wore. I never borrowed my big sister's clothes, I just didn't dress in that way. Over the years I have felt people's slight annoyance about the fact that we don't appear to get on each other's nerves."

She would prefer to say it's "inspiring" coming from a family of gifted writers and performers. "But you can only do you."

You'd imagine her father told fabulous bedtime stories. "Oh no, he was shit at those. Me and Em would always laugh because he would pick the shortest Beatrix Potter to read, a word on every page or something. But he was amazingly funny, he was great."

He died in 1982, by which time Thompson, who left school in 1978 when she was 16, already had a few screen credits. After that, playing the villainous Stella in *EastEnders* between 2006 and 2007 probably got her the most exposure; *Four Weddings* perhaps sticks most in the popular imagination, but more recently she has been Sheila in the metal-detecting BBC sitcom *Detectorists*. Crook, she suggests, is a genius, but she is sworn to secrecy — "I've signed something!" — about the one-off reunion due later this year.

She loved the *Detectorists* scripts. "When you are in something like that you are so happy, but it's still terrifying," she says.

Still terrifying, says one of our most accomplished character actresses? Can it be that, never mind the Olivier award (for playing The Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* in 1999) and five further nominations, including one for her stage role in *Present Laughter* at the Old Vic in 2019, the actor's lot is to remain insecure?

Oh yes, she says. "I think there's that impression that people like me, pieces of work plop into their door every day. Doesn't work like that." Happily, there is more of it ahoy. She was delighted to have worked on the forthcoming Irish comedy drama, *SisterS*. She is struck, she says, by the emphasis on realism lately. It scares and excites her.

"I don't want to tell awful old anecdotes, you want to keep current." And with that she gets ready to stick on some hair and get back on stage in a show she hopes will chime with the spirit of the age.

The Clothes They Stood Up In is at the Nottingham Playhouse to Oct 1, nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk

Sister act — Emma and I are so different

Sophie Thompson talks to Dominic Maxwell about her famous family, divorce and her latest stage role

a family home in Scotland to retreat to. "If I feel bonkers then I go and plant things, that seems to really plug me in. I'm so fortunate to have that landscape to turn to when I need it."

So Thompson is no longer in the idyllic-sounding set-up where she, Emma and their mother, the actress Phyllida Law, all lived in houses on the same street in West Hampstead. In fact, she says, that arrangement was "folklore": she had moved north from there with her family a while ago. "You can't afford that area any more, the one you were brought up in. I'm east now, which I love."

It's a thoroughly theatrical family: her father, Eric Thompson, was an actor and director best known for writing and voicing the British version of the children's series *The Magic Roundabout*. So sitting in a theatre before the audience arrives, as she is doing now, takes her back.

Even so, she insists she was no shoo-in to follow in the family tradition. At the time she started going to her secondary school, Camden School for Girls, she was "very



Sophie Thompson with her mother, Phyllida Law, and sister, Emma, after Law's OBE investiture

not-schooly, awkward, shy". Then she started joining drama groups and found an outlet for herself, but still sometimes played truant.

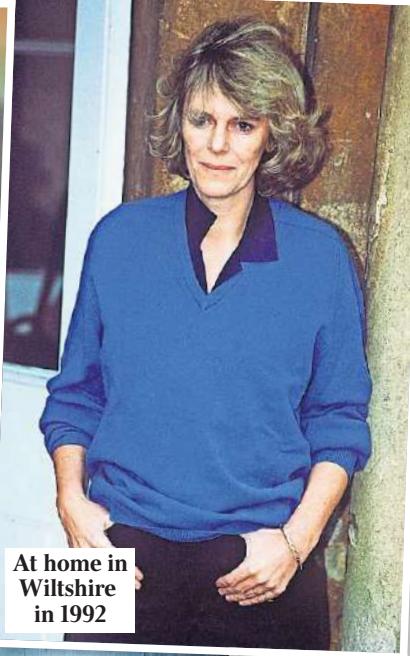
"I'd go and sit outside the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park. That's pretentious, isn't it?"

Was it inhibiting to have a sister three years her senior who was so good at everything? Thompson bristles. "Our joys are our differences,

Is Camilla a style icon? Discuss



Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall near Sandringham House in 2006. Left: with Prince Charles at Highgrove in 2020



At home in Wiltshire in 1992

Barbours, quilted gilets and headgear: the Queen Consort's off-duty chic is in, says Harriet Walker

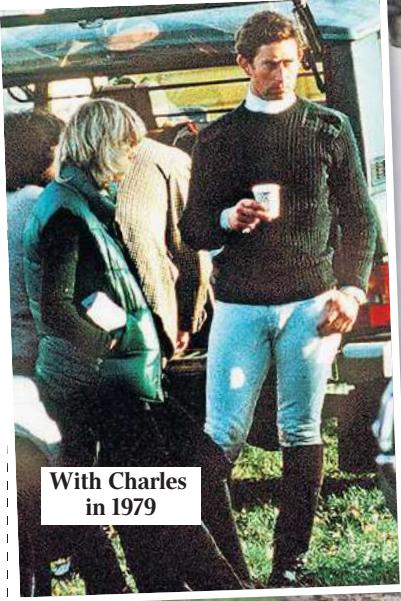
When Alexa Chung launched her latest collection of coats for Barbour with a dinner for the fashion set on Wednesday, guests had no idea one of the waxed jacket's other most famous fans would so soon be thrust into the global limelight.

With the accession of her husband, our new Queen Consort Camilla — née Shand, once Parker Bowles and very much a Barbour-wearer — shifts from being one of recent history's most talked-about women to one of its most scrutinised as well.

Most style icons tend to be 17 rather than 75, but in fact the Queen Consort has already made her mark on the nation's wardrobes — and not just among the Viyella crowd. Instead it is Camilla's off-duty chic — classic country set posh, as suited to hunting, shooting and fishing as it is to popping to the shops in the Range Rover to pick up worming tablets for the dog — that has become a bona fide fashion trend in recent years.

Gilets, riding and walking boots, quilted "Balmoral" jackets. My local edgy hair salon reports an uptick in the Seventies shag and Purdey-ish cuts sported by Camilla in her youth. One of Chung's new Barbour styles may be called the Elizabeth, but styled as it is on the brand's website, with jeans, Chelsea boots and rollneck, the £499 knee-length waxed jacket with detachable storm cape is pure Camilla.

"[Barbours have] such a regal quality," Chung says of her collection. "But they also wouldn't look amiss on a Sixties mod. That interplay



With Charles in 1979



Alexa Chung in her Barbour collection



Designer Blanca Miró

between establishment and rebellion excites me."

Clearly, Camilla knows something of that mix. The golden Philip Treacy headdress she wore to the blessing of her wedding to Charles in 2005 might have broken with the tradition of royal brides wearing tiaras to the altar, but it remains — bridal outfitters and wedding stylists often tell me — one of the most referenced and requested wedding looks among women of all ages. Not bad for one once dubbed the "most hated" in Britain.

If there has been a thawing of hearts towards the Queen Consort, there has been a similar reappraisal of the country set look in fashion terms — although these days perhaps it's more country house weekend than pure point-to-point (jeans are fine; jodhpurs only for the diehards).

There had been something of a posh-

naissance well before the pandemic, with Chung reissuing the Sloane's favourite pie-crust collar in a range for M&S. After Kate Moss and Lily Allen rehabilitated Barbours and Hunter wellies at Glastonbury in the late Noughties, the look began to creep on to the pavements of Dalston and Hackney.

Yet it was in lockdown that the trend went mainstream among urban hipsters as well as craggy hikers. Hunter's sales nearly doubled in 2020, and searches for walking boots increased by 60 per cent last spring. Lockdown life made bumpkins of us all — the only difference was whether you were walking on your own estate or one of the council's.

Add to this the arrival in autumn 2020 of the fourth series of *The Crown*. In it, 36-year-old Emerald Fennell played Camilla as a — to use the actress's words — "chain-smoking serial snogger with a pudding bowl haircut", and a newly retro royal

fashion plate was born. New York Magazine described the series as "Barbour jacket porn", and Google searches for the styles, as worn by Fennell and Emma Corrin, as Diana Spencer, rose by 196 per cent in its wake.

With the announcement last month of a new Disney+ adaptation of Jilly Cooper's 1980s horse set bonkbuster *Rivals*, not to mention another series of *The Crown* this autumn (in which Olivia Williams will take over from Fennell), the fashions of Camilla's younger days are set to remain centre stage not only

on the screen, but in our wardrobes.

This winter, as last, the most ubiquitous look is an army green quilted coat or jacket. Whether because of royal influence or rising heating bills, quilted gilets are set to be one of the most popular items on the high street this autumn; Boden's £80 version in navy or blush pink velvet has almost sold out within a week of being on sale. Even at the Scandi brand Arket, where they are known as "vests" to mitigate any rah connotations, supplies of sleeveless bodywarmers are running low.

When the trendsetter formerly known as the Duchess of Cambridge wore a £255 khaki version from every fashion editor's favourite Danish It girl label Ganni to COP26 last year, the worlds of haute and hooray collided. She looked not only modern but a quintessential royal off-duty. The recognisable template was originally developed not only by the Queen and Princess Anne in their equestrian Husky jackets during the Seventies, but by Camilla at the time too.

These days "new country" labels are popping up to supply the old guard and those who have relocated and find themselves sticking out like the sore proverbial. Really Wild Clothing, a favourite of the now Princess of Wales, updates the tweedy deerstalker look for the yummy mummy generation, while Troy London seeks to streamline stately home chic in modern (borderline urban) parkas and corduroy dungarees — none of which will scare the horses, however.

Then there is Chung's Barbour line, which I think is a brilliant halfway house between Hackney and Hampshire and promises to be the source of this winter's most practical must-have: a £49.95 waxed rainhat (a bucket hat with a chin strap).

Of course, Camilla is more of a fedora type (try Hicks & Brown's £124 Chelsworth), with recourse to a "huff" — or head muff — during cold snaps. Helen Moore's are the best, and happen to be fake fur (£39, helenmoore.com). Just don't mention that at the country house weekend, or they'll think you're woke and leave you out of the blood sports.

Today's schedules may be subject to change

television & radio

You couldn't deep-fake the thrills this gave us

Carol Midgley TV review



The Capture

BBC1

★★★★★

The Capture ended with a 70-minute finale that was implausible, elaborate, daft and had more twists than a cheap garden hose. It was also fabulously entertaining. There are lazy TV dramas and there are the ones that graft to keep you on your toes until the last frame. *The Capture* definitely fell into the latter camp, for which the writer Ben Chanian deserves credit. Big spoilers ahead.

Obviously there was the slightly icky matter of a BBC drama making the hero of the hour the, erm, BBC, which felt faintly onanistic. Sometimes this series has felt like product placement

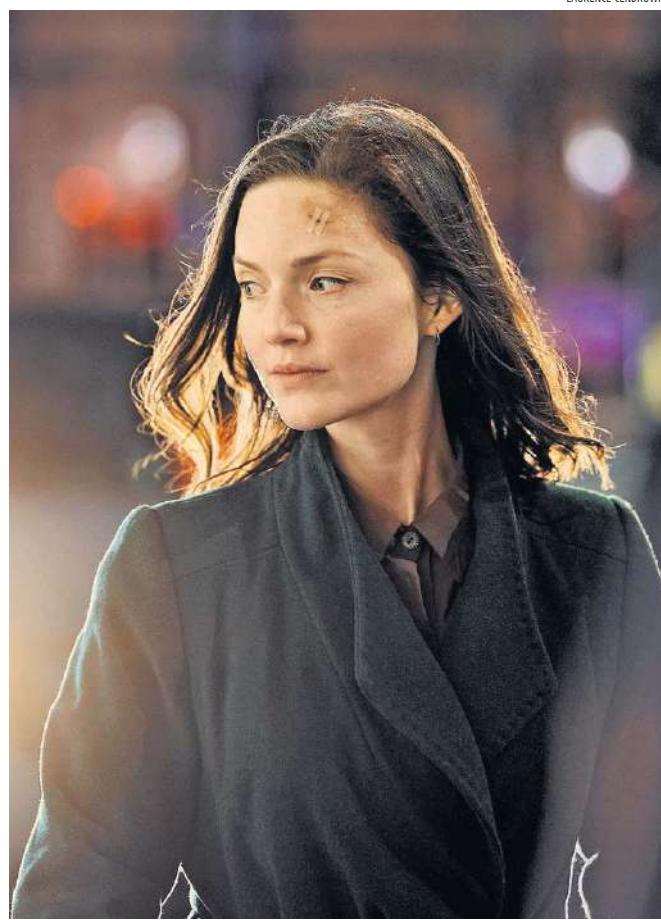
for *Newsnight*. But what a tremendous rug-puller that was — *Newsnight*, assisted by DCI Rachel Carey (an icily poised Holliday Grainger), using deep-fake technology to expose the state's use of deep-fake technology.

The MP Isaac Turner (an excellent Paapa Essiedu) let members of the public film him on their phones at Piccadilly Circus at the exact moment his faked TV interview was being broadcast live to prove the point. It's a miracle that something so meta didn't frequently disappear up its own backside, but it didn't (just about).

No one could be trusted; everyone was spying on everyone. DSU Gemma Garland (Lia Williams) had even hacked Frank Napier's medical records to convince him he had stage-four stomach cancer. It was an espionage daisy chain and a terrific one at that.

But our alpha heroine was DCI Carey, who was one step ahead of the spooks despite her whistleblowing operation being dismissed by Garland as "not quite Ed Snowden, more Adrian Mole", which made me laugh.

That Carey managed to hack SO15's deep-fake script and replace it with her own by simply pushing a button while the tech assistant was distracted was a bit of a stretch. "I always knew you were destined for greatness," said Danny (Ben Miles), which was corny, but it was such cracking viewing by that point, I didn't care.



Holliday Grainger was icily poised as DCI Rachel Carey

The plot's other strand, the oily snake Gregory Knox (Joseph Arkley) fronting a data-harvesting company called Truro Analytics — a not terribly subtle nod to Cambridge Analytica — which could threaten democracy by influencing elections and referendums, was brilliantly done.

Knox had managed to turn the head of Turner, a decent but nakedly ambitious minister, by promising that his algorithm could get him into No 10. I loved that Knox was a sort of Lady Macbeth to Turner, pushing him to "greatness" by nefarious means. I also loved that Turner had cheated behind his wife's back while attending his mother's funeral, despite swearing blind he hadn't. A politician who can't keep his trousers on: quelle surprise!

Although the deep-fake premise was (hopefully) a little far-fetched, it's not totally beyond the bounds of possibility for the future. The message as outlined by the faux Isaac Turner was eerily apt in an era of fake news and corrupted imagery: "We need to challenge everything we're told and question everything we see."

How to know anything is real? Now that the intelligence bods have been exposed and DCI Carey has technically breached the Official Secrets Act it has left things teed up for a series three, if we get one. I hope so. This has been an occasionally deranged but pretty thrilling ride.

Radio choice

Ben Dowell



Icon

Radio 4, 11.30am

The famous picture of Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton enjoying themselves on a yacht off the island of Ischia when they were both married to other people gave the world some of the first paparazzo pictures of the modern age. The money shot was of them embracing, an image that, this programme argues, marks the birth of modern celebrity and is a neat start to a series that seeks to understand the popular relationship with fame through the life of Taylor. It features the contributions of photojournalist Danny Hayward, sociologist Ellis Cashmore and philosopher Professor Angie Hobbs.

Times Radio

Digital Only

5.00am Anna Cunningham with Early Breakfast **6.00** Aasmah Mir and Stig Abell with Times Radio Breakfast **10.00** Matt Chorley **1.00pm** Mariella Frostrup **4.00** John Pienaar at Drive **7.00** Henry Bonsu **10.00** Carole Walker **1.00am** Stories of Our Times. *The Times*'s daily podcast **1.30** Red Box. Podcast **2.00** Highlights from Times Radio

Radio 2

FM: 88-90.2 MHz
6.30am The Zoe Ball Breakfast Show **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jeremy Vine **2.00pm** Steve Wright **5.00** Sara Cox **6.30** Sara Cox's **Half Wover 7.00** Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist **7.30** Jo Whiley **9.00** Remembering Our Queen. To mark the death of the Queen, Ken Bruce revisits some of Her Majesty's favourite music. Plus, stories from those who knew the Queen best **10.00** Trevor Nelson's Magnificent **7 10.30** Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation **12.00** OJ Borg **3.00am** Pick of the Pops **4.00** Early Breakfast Show

Radio 3

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz
6.30am Breakfast Radio 3's classical breakfast show, featuring listener requests. Including **7.00**, **8.00** News, **7.30**, **8.30** News headlines
9.00 Essential Classics A selection of music and features, including the Playlist starter and Song of the Day
12.00 Composer of the Week: Bruckner (1824-1896) Donald Macleod follows Bruckner's ascent into the organ lofts of Europe, including an invitation to perform on the organ of Notre Dame in Paris. Bruckner (Prelude in E flat, WAB 127 No 2) Edwin Horn (organ); (Postlude in D minor, WAB 126) Gerd Schaller (organ); (*Libera me, WAB 22*) RIAS Chamber Choir, Academy for Early Music, Berlin, Lukasz Borowicz (conductor); (*Vor Arethet Grab*, WAB 53) RIAS Chamber Choir, Members of the Academy for Early Music, Berlin, Lukasz Borowicz (conductor); (Prelude and Fugue in C minor, WAB 131) Gerd Schaller (organ); (*Te Deum*, WAB 45) Jessye Norman (soprano), Yvonne Minton (alto), David Randall (tenor), Samuel Ramey (bass), Chicago Symphony Chorus, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Daniel Barenboim (conductor); and Bruckner, arr. Edwin Horn (March in D minor, WAB 96) Hansjörg Albrecht (organ)

1.00pm Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert

Nicola Heywood Thomas presents the first in a week of programmes featuring highlights of the Machynlleth Festival, recorded at the Tabernacle — a converted Wesleyan chapel. Dvorák (Quintet for string quartet and double bass, Op 77) Navarra Quartet, Leon Bosch (double bass); John Ireland (*Sea Fever*); Michael Head (*Limehouse Reach*); Gerald Finzi (*Fear no more the heat o' the sun*); Ivor Gurney (*By a Bierside*); Michael Head (*Money O*); and Herbert Howells (*The Muggers Song*) Brindley Sherratt (bass), Julius Drake (piano)
2.00 Afternoon Concert Penny Gore presents music from summer festivals around Europe, including a concert given by the Verbier Festival Orchestra featuring Bartok and Shostakovich. Fasch (Overture in G minor, FWV K.92) Les Ambassadeurs La Grande Ecurie, Alexis Kossenko (conductor); Schedrin (*Dialogues with Shostakovich*) Verbier Festival Orchestra, Gianandrea Noseda (conductor); Bartok (Piano Concerto no.2 in G major, Sz.95) Yefim Bronfman (piano), Verbier Festival Orchestra, Gianandrea Noseda (conductor); Shostakovich (Symphony no.1 in F minor, Op.10) Verbier Festival Orchestra, Gianandrea Noseda (conductor); Doreen Carwithen (*Sonatina for cello and piano*) Andrei Ionita (cello), Lilit Grigoryan (piano); Vaughan Williams (*The Lark Ascending*) Rosanne Philippens (violin), BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Mark Wigglesworth (conductor); and Zelenka (*Potrei sovra degli Empi*, from *Il serpente di bronzo*, ZWV61) Stephan MacLeod (baritone), Les Ambassadeurs La Grande Ecurie, Alexis Kossenko (conductor)
5.00 In Tune A selection of music, arts news and guests, with Sean Rafferty. **5.00**, **6.00** News
7.00 In Tune Mixtape A non-stop mix of music, featuring old favourites together with lesser-known gems
7.30 Radio 3 in Concert Donald Runnicles and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra perform Ottorino Respighi's *Pines of Rome* and Carl Orff's almighty cantata *Carmina Burana*. Recorded at the Usher Hall in Edinburgh, in August 2022. Presented by Kate Molleson. Respighi (*Pines of Rome*); and Orff (*Carmina Burana*) Meehot Marrero (soprano), Sunnyboy Dladla (tenor), Thomas Lehman (baritone), Edinburgh Festival Chorus, National Youth Choir of Scotland Girls Choir, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Sir Donald Runnicles (conductor)

10.00 Free Thinking

John Gallagher and guests including Dr Joanna Nolan and translator David Bellos look at language in the Age of Exploration

10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language

Tina Kelberman shares her story of growing up in a Jewish household using British Sign Language, and how sign language has been passed down the generations and evolved

11.00 Night Tracks

An adventurous, immersive soundtrack for late-night listening, from classical to contemporary and everything in between

12.30am Through the Night (r)

Radio 4

FM: 92.4-94.6 MHz LW: 198kHz MW: 720 kHz

5.30am News Briefing

5.43 Prayer for the Day The Archbishop of York reflects on the death of the Queen

5.45 Farming Today

5.58 Tweet of the Day (r)

6.00 Today

News headlines presented by Nick Robinson and Mishal Husain

9.00 The Life Scientific

Geo-archaeologist Dr Judith Bunbury reflects on the Sahara Desert (2/7) (r)

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid

By Nita Prose (7/10)

11.00 Fortunately

11.30 The Digital Human (r)

12.00 News and Weather

12.30am Book of the Week: A Visible Man

By Edward Enninful (2/5)

10.00 Woman's Hour

Topical conversation offering a female perspective, with Emma Barnett

11.00 The Curious Cases of Rutherford & Fry

Hannah Fry and the geneticist Adam Rutherford investigate allergies (5/6)

11.30 Icon

The celebrity culture that enveloped Elizabeth Taylor. *See Radio Choice* (1/6)

12.01pm (LW) Shipping Forecast

12.04 Call You and Yours

1.00 The World at One

1.45 The Boy in the Woods

The discovery of the naked body of six-year-old Rikki Neave, laid out in the woods (2/10)

2.00 The Archers (r)

2.15 Drama: Love Across the Ages

By Shahid Iqbal Khan

3.00 Short Cuts

Short documentaries in sound (2/5)

3.30 Costing the Earth

Ideas to work towards a greener planet

4.00 The Listening Project

Members of the public share intimate conversations

4.30 The Digital Human

Aleks Krotoski asks if AI companions will be like imaginary friends of childhood (r)

5.00 PM

5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Alone

By Moray Hunter (5/6)

7.00 The Archers

There is a surprise for Josh

7.15 Front Row

8.00 File on 4

Tom Wall presents an investigation into the standards of care provided by 'for profit' children's homes. He also talks to care leavers and children who have experienced life in homes where profit is a priority

8.40 In Touch

9.00 Can the Police Keep Us Safe?

The question of policing and public safety, both on the streets and online (2/3) (r)

9.30 The Life Scientific

Geo-archaeologist Dr Judith Bunbury reflects on the Sahara Desert (2/7) (r)

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid

By Nita Prose (7/10)

11.00 Fortunately

11.30 The Digital Human (r)

12.00 News and Weather

12.30am Book of the Week: A Visible Man (r)

12.48 Shipping Forecast

1.00 As BBC World Service

Radio 4 Extra

Digital only

8.00am The Goon Show 8.30 King Street Junior 9.00 Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music 9.30 The Older Woman 10.00 The

No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency 10.45 Short Works 11.00 Music Hall Reclaimed 12.00 The Goon Show 12.30pm King Street Junior

1.00 Some Mother's Son 1.30 Agatha Raisin 2.00 Adventures of a Young Naturalist 2.15

Eleanor Rising 2.30 The Hotel Suite 3.00

The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency 3.45

Short Works 4.00 The 3rd Degree 4.30

The Older Woman 5.00 The Break 5.30

6.00 Journey into Space 6.30 Soul

Music 7.00 The Goon Show 7.30 King Street Junior 8.00 Some Mother's Son 8.30

Agatha Raisin 9.00 Music Hall Reclaimed 10.00 Comedy Club: Alone 10.30 Comedy Club: Think the Unthinkable 11.00 Party

11.30 I've Never Seen Star Wars

Radio 5 Live

MW: 693, 909

5.00am Wake Up to Money 6.00 5 Live Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 11.00 Adrian Chiles 1.00pm Nihal Arthanayake 4.00 5 Live Drive 5.30 5 Live Sport 5.45 Live 5 Live Sport: Sporting Lisbon v Tottenham Hotspur (Kick-off 5.45) 8.00 Live 5 Live Sport: Liverpool v Ajax (Kick-off 8.00) 10.30 Colin Murray 1.00am Dotun Adebayo

talkSPORT

MW: 1053, 1089 kHz

5.00am Early Breakfast 6.00 Breakfast 10.00 Jim White and Simon Jordan 1.00pm Hawksbee & Baker 4.00 Drive with Andy Goldstein and Darren Bent 7.00 Kick Off 10.00 Sports Bar 12.00 Extra Time

TalkRadio

Digital only

5.00am James Max 6.30 The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show 10.00 The Independent Republic of Mike Graham 1.00pm Ian Collins 4.00 Vanessa Feltz 7.00 The News Desk 8.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 9.00 The Talk 10.00 Daisy McAndrew 11.00 Piers Morgan Uncensored 12.00 Petrie Hosken 4.00am The Talk

6 Music

Digital only

5.00am Chris Hawkins 7.30 Lauren Laverne 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00pm Craig Charles 4.00 Steve Lamaco 7.00 Tom Robinson 9.00 Gideon Coe 12.00 6 Music Artist in Residence 1.00am The First Time with Debbie Harry 2.00 The First Time with Grandmaster Flash 3.00 6 Music at All Points East 4.00 The Little Simz Playlist

Virgin Radio

Digital only

6.30am The Chris Evans Breakfast Show with Sky 10.00 Eddy Temple-Morris 1.00pm Tim Cocker 4.00 Jayne Middlemiss 7.00

television & radio

Today's schedules may be subject to change

Viewing Guide

Ben Dowell

The Great British Bake Off

Channel 4, 8pm

Top pick
As the nights get shorter and money gets tighter, the warming comforts of *Bake Off*'s ovens return. Gas prices? What gas prices? The

tent, set-piece comedy routines and diverse array of contestants are the same as ever, with a *Star Wars*-themed opening montage designed purely to allow judges Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith and comedian presenters Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas to cover the full gamut of punning. There's Luke Piewalker

(Matt), Princess Leia Cake (Noel), Pruebacca and of course Paul as Darth Baker. The main point of the opening episode is to introduce the dozen bakers as they embark on the traditional three challenges. Tonight's signature calls for 12 perfect mini cakes and the technical is a layered red velvet cake. For the showstopper

they have to make a scaled-down, sponge version of a home close to their hearts. Already standing out from the cast is Sandro, a fitness enthusiast from London who works as a nanny and who on the evidence of his first effort clearly knows how to handle himself in the kitchen. Supermarket cashier Carole also comes to

the fore, with her colourful hair and strong Dorset accent; we're told she is affectionately known as "Compost Carole" because of her love of gardening. Then there is Dawn, who reveals that she worked as a "former project manager for Boris Johnson". You know, the former pie minister (sorry).

Fake or Fortune?

BBC2, 8pm

Could a painting depicting Christ after his death on the cross that is hanging in a Roman Catholic church in Port Glasgow be a lost masterpiece by one of the great painters of the Northern Renaissance? It's another intriguing question in the last

episode of the series and presents Fiona Bruce and the art expert Philip Mould with one of their toughest challenges. It's also a moving story because the search involves Marjorie Macdonald, the widow of an art historian called Ian Macdonald who died in 2021 and was convinced that this was an important piece.

BBC1

Early

6.00am Breakfast. A round-up of national and international news, plus current affairs, entertainment, and weather 10.00 BBC News Special 11.15 HM The King In Northern Ireland. King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla arrive in Belfast 4.00pm BBC News 4.30 HM The Queen: The Journey To London. Her Majesty The Queen's coffin makes its way to London 6.05 BBC News at Six; Weather 6.25 BBC Regional News; Weather 6.45 The Eve Of The Procession To Lying-In-State

BBC2

6.05am A to Z of TV Gardening (r) 6.50 Sign Zone: Nature's Weirdest Events (r) (SL) 7.20 Antiques Road Trip (r) 8.05 Coast (r) 9.05 Lifeline (r) 9.15 Animal Park (r) 10.00 The Farmers' Country Showdown (r) 10.30 Wanted Down Under (r) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (r) 12.15pm Bargain Hunt (r) 1.00 BBC News 1.45 Doctors. Sid is surprised to get a visit from an old flame (AD) 2.15 Money for Nothing (r) 3.00 Escape to the Country. Jules Hudson is in Powys with a couple whose wish list includes an annexe for their parents, along with at least half an acre of land for their budget of £650,000 (AD) 3.45 The Bidding Room. The dealers bid against each other on a childhood Viewmaster collection, a set of art deco candle holders and an apothecary box (r) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip. Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott travel around Northamptonshire, where items include an art deco trinket box, a 1905 kaleidoscope, a B&B sign and an early Japanese satsuma pot 5.15 Flog It! Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry (r) 5.30 Live Women's T20 Cricket. England v India. Coverage of the second match of the series, which comes from The Incora County Ground in Derby

ITV

6.00am Good Morning Britain. Morning magazine featuring a lively mix of news and current affairs, plus health, entertainment and lifestyle features 9.00 Lorraine. Entertainment, current affairs and fashion news, as well as showbiz stories and celebrity gossip. Presented by Lorraine Kelly 10.00 This Morning. A mix of celebrity chat, lifestyle features, advice and competitions. Including Local Weather 12.00 ITV News: The King's Tour — Northern Ireland 1.30pm ITV News: Weather 4.00 ITV News: Queen Elizabeth II — Return to the Palace 6.10 Regional News; Weather 6.20 ITV News; Weather

Channel 4

6.10am Countdown (r) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (r) (AD) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (r) (AD) 9.00 Frasier (r) (AD) 10.30 Four in a Bed. The rival hoteliers arrive at Wards Hotel in Folkestone (r) 11.00 The Great House Giveaway. A delivery driver and company owner transform a family home in Middlesbrough (r) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary 12.30pm Steph's Packed Lunch. Weekly magazine show hosted by Steph McGovern 2.10 Countdown. Colin Murray and Rachel Riley host the words and numbers game where contestants pit their wits against the clock. Rick Edwards is in Dictionary Corner with Susie Dent 3.00 A Place in the Sun. Jasmine Harman helps a retired couple with 15 grandchildren to find a new home on Lanzarote in their favourite resort of Playa Blanca, on a budget of £350,000 (r) 4.00 Chateau DIY. Owners rush to finish their new gin bar (AD) 5.00 Moneybags. Craig Charles hosts the quiz that puts mental speed to the test. In the first of this week's episodes, 10 new contestants vie for their chance to win a life-changing cash prize 6.00 The Simpsons. Bart is placed on medication (r) (AD) 6.30 Hollyoaks. Warren finally finds out that his son ran him over (r) (AD)

Channel 5

6.00am Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine. The broadcaster and guests discuss the issues of the day with co-host Storm Huntley joining him for phone-ins and reading out viewers' correspondence 12.45pm Holiday Homes in the Sun. Amanda Lamb, JB Gill and Sam Pinkham are in and around Bergerac in south-western France, one of the most popular destinations for British expats 1.45 5 News at Luncheon 1.45 Home and Away. Felicity hurls abuse at the police who are keeping her imprisoned, and Cash is bleeding out as Xander arrives in the ambulance, on duty (AD) 2.15 FILM: *A Midsummer's Hawaiian Dream* (PG, TVM, 2016) Two couples go in search of an ancient relic in Hawaii, only to fall under a shaman's love spell. Romantic fantasy comedy, starring Amy Carlson and Charles Shaughnessy. 4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. Cameras follow an 82-year-old originally from Wales, who is now a bargain-loving Brit living in Mijas on the Costa del Sol, and the staff of the Mad Munk in Benidorm (r) 5.00 5 News at 5 6.00 Cash in the Attic. Jules Hudson and expert appraiser Jessica Wall are in Cornwall, treasure-hunting with a duo who have both worked for airlines (AD) 6.55 5 News Update

THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES

Know your times

7PM

7.00 **Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** *Red Dwarf* co-stars Craig Charles and Robert Llewellyn travel around the West Midlands in search of antiques, assisted by experts Izzie Balmer and Tim Medhurst (r)

Channel 4 News

7.00 **Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly** Graeme Hall treats a dog that has become aggressive towards other dogs after being attacked, and helps a cancer patient with a badly behaved golden retriever (2/10) (r)

7.55 5 News Update

8.00 **The Yorkshire Vet** Peter Wright helps a pregnant cow that is expecting twins, and farmer Will is worried that neither calf will survive, and Julian Norton meets a champion ferret with an infected foot (2/11) (AD)

8PM

8.00 **Fake or Fortune?** Exploring the origins of a 17th-century painting of Christ having just been brought down from the cross, currently hanging in a Port Glasgow church. Last in the series. See *Viewing Guide* (AD)

8.05 **Emmerdale** As Ethan tries to convince Naomi to do the right thing, Kim prepares to reconnect with a much-missed Millie, and it remains to be seen if Al and Chas can revel in their intimacy (AD)

8.00 **The Great British Bake Off** New series. Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas welcome 12 new contestants into the tent, baking mini cakes and two sponges, including one in the shape of a house close to their hearts. See *Viewing Guide* (1/10) (AD)

9.00 **The Pyrenees with Michael Portillo** The broadcaster retraces the route through the Catalonian Pyrenees his father used to flee in 1939 as a political refugee from the Spanish Civil War. See *Viewing Guide* (4/4)

9PM

9.00 **The One Show** Another mix of nationwide reports and live studio-based chat

9.30 **EastEnders** Kat is less than pleased to see ex-husband Alfie, who begs her not to marry Phil (AD)

9.05 **Charles, The Monarch and the Man** Documentary on King Charles III, who took over as monarch following the death of Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday

9.30 **First Dates Hotel** Twins arrive at the Italian hotel on the lookout for love, while two women are paired on a date that proves opposites do attract (AD)

10.00 **The Great Smog: Winter of '52** Exploring the fear that paralysed London as the disaster entered day three, focusing on the public not understanding what was happening and the government's lack of action (r)

10PM

10.00 BBC News at Ten

10.30 BBC Regional News and Weather

10.00 **Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing** *The River Exe* in Devon (r)

10.30 **Newsnight** Headline analysis

10.00 **ITV News at Ten**; followed by Weather

10.50 **Regional News**

10.30 **Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard** Rosie and rapper Lady Leshurr face a 418ft abseil challenge in Northampton, and prepare by going up in a microlight and taking part in an anti-gravity yoga class (4/5) (AD)

11.00 **An Officer and a Gentleman (15, 1982)** A Navy recruit has an uneasy romance with a factory worker and is pushed to his limits by a tough sergeant. Romantic drama starring Richard Gere, Debra Winger and Louis Gossett Jr

11PM

11.10 BBC News

11.15 **Martin Compston's Scottish Fling** The actor travels across his homeland with his friend and TV presenter Phil MacHugh (1/6) (r) (AD)

11.45 **Inside the Factory XL: Diggers** A factory that makes up to a hundred yellow diggers every day (r) (AD)

11.00 **Our Queen The People's Stories** Members of the public share their memories of Queen Elizabeth II

11.35 **Gogglebox** The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week with cameras capturing their instant reactions (r) (AD)

12.35am **24 Hours in A&E** (r) 1.30 *The Simpsons* (r) 2.20 FILM: *The Dressmaker* (12, 2015) Drama based on the novel by Rosalie Ham, starring Kate Winslet, Judy Davis and Hugo Weaving. See *Viewing Guide* (AD) 4.15 *Perfect House, Secret Location* (r) (AD, SL) 5.15-6.10 *The Great Home Transformation* (r) (AD, SL)

1.20am **Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts** The casualty department is at a standstill at Barnsley Hospital (r) 2.10 *A&E After Dark* (r) 3.00 *Entertainment News* on 5 3.05 *Britain's Favourite Chocolate* (r) 4.45 *Amazing Cakes & Bakes* (r) 5.30 *Peppa Pig* (r) (SL) 5.35 *Paw Patrol* (r) 5.50-6.00 *Fireman Sam* (r) (SL)

Late

12.45am **Sign Zone: Picturing Elizabeth — Her Life in Images** Documentary revealing how Queen Elizabeth II became the most visually represented person in human history (r) (SL) 1.45-2.45 *The Hotel People*. The Europa hotel gets a facelift, and the Slieve Donard has its most important wedding of the season (r) (SL)

12.00 **Teleshopping 3.00am** *Take the Tower*. A woman, her daughter and two nephews take on the challenge (r) (AD, SL) 3.45 *Unwind with ITV* 5.10-6.00 *Ainsley's Mediterranean Cookbook*. Ainsley Harriott embarks on a journey across the Mediterranean on a 44ft catamaran, preparing a variety of delicious recipes along the way (r)

The Pyrenees with Michael Portillo

Channel 5, 9pm

Michael Portillo is in the Catalonian Pyrenees for a very personal end to his mountain adventure. In 1939 Michael's father, Luis Gabriel Portillo Perez, fled through these mountains as a political refugee from

the Spanish Civil War, and in the tiny village of La Vajol Portillo meets a woman who also had family who escaped via that route. "I hope he might think that my coming here is a tribute to him and to his suffering," says Portillo who (almost 70) has endured hardships on this journey while bringing great warmth and wisdom.

Irma Vep
Sky Atlantic/Now, 9pm

It's the penultimate episode of Olivier Assayas's meta remake of a film about a remake and things are getting wild. The unstable director René (Vincent Macaigne) has left the film project, but everyone believes he will return in some form. The film is his

vision, even though he appears to have paid a high price for it with an apparent breakdown. Meanwhile, Alicia Vikander's Mira seems to be up to all sorts, prancing around in her catsuit, vanishing through doors and kissing her assistant. Next week's final episode is called *The Terrible Wedding*. So expect all sorts.

Gorbachev. Heaven: Storyville
BBC4, 9.30pm

In a quiet house outside Moscow the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is asleep in front of a TV programme showing him meeting Ronald Reagan. Vitaly Mansky's elegiac film follows Gorbachev, who died last month,

reflecting on his achievements. As the arrival of 2020 is heralded by Vladimir Putin on TV Gorbachev watches on silently. He has told us that he is free to speak his mind but here he merely repeats the word "freedom" from the Russian national anthem and says he was the one who brought it to his country.

Film The Dressmaker

Channel 4, 2.20am

A mysterious stranger (Kate Winslet) whooshes into an outback town, followed by Hugo Weaving's cross-dressing policeman in what may well be the first madcap couture-inspired revenge-western dress-fest. (12, 2015)

Sky Max

6.00am Stargate SG-1 (r) **8.00** The Flash (r) **9.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow (r) (AD) **10.00** Supergirl (r) **11.00** NCIS: New Orleans (r) **1.00pm** Hawaii Five-0 (r) **2.00** MacGyver (r) **3.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow (r) (AD) **4.00** The Flash (r) **5.00** Supergirl (r) **6.00** Stargate SG-1. A Jaffa leader tries to form an alliance with Earth (r) **7.00** Stargate SG-1. A dormant android is discovered on a barren planet (r) **8.00** A League of Their Own. With guest panellists Aaron Ramsdale, Michael Sheen, Alex Brooker and Emily Attack (r) (AD) **9.00** The Blacklist. Aram turns to an unusual outlet for release (r) **10.00** The 74th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards. Kenan Thompson hosts the ceremony honouring excellence in television in Los Angeles **12.00** Brassic (r) (AD) **1.00am** Road Wars (r) **2.00** Never Mind the Buzzcocks. Comedy music quiz hosted by Greg Davies **2.45** Hawaii Five-0 (r) **3.50** MacGyver (r) **4.55** Highway Patrol (r)

Sky Atlantic

6.00am Fish Town (r) **7.45** Boardwalk Empire (r) (AD) **10.00** The Sopranos (r) (AD) **12.15pm** Ray Donovan (r) (AD) **2.25** Game of Thrones (r) (AD) **3.30** Boardwalk Empire (r) (AD) **5.45** The Sopranos. Junior undergoes surgery (r) **6.50** The Sopranos. Tony's generosity in giving up his time with Dr Melfi pays off (r) **7.55** Game of Thrones. Theon embarks on a hunt as he tries to prove his Ironborn status, and Daenerys receives a useful invitation (r) (AD) **9.00** Irma Vep. Mira uses her newfound powers as Irma Vep to probe deeper into the lives of those around her, and experiences a spiritual breakthrough. See *Viewing Guide* (7/8) **10.05** House of the Dragon. *Game of Thrones* prequel following the story of House Targaryen. Paddy Considine and Matt Smith star (r) (AD) **11.10** Munich Games. Political thriller starring Yousef Sweid and Seyneb Saleh (r) **12.10am** Munich Games (r) **1.10** Succession (r) (AD) **2.20** The Affair (r) (AD) **3.30** In Treatment (r) **4.00** Fish Town (r)

Sky Documentaries

6.00am Urban Secrets (r) **7.00** Discovering: Jack Nicholson (r) **8.00** The Directors (r) **9.00** The 2000s (r) **10.00** Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes (r) **11.00** The Vietnam War (r) **12.00** Quant (r) **1.50pm** FILM: The Real Charlie Chaplin (PG, 2021) A look at the life and work of the silent comedy icon **4.00** The Directors (r) **5.00** Discovering: Jack Nicholson (r) **6.00** The 2000s. Taking a look at terrorism in the US during the decade (r) **7.00** Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes (r) **8.00** The Vietnam War (r) **9.00** The Last Movie Stars (r) **10.05** FILM: JFK Revisited — Through the Looking Glass (15, 2021) Documentary examining the assassination of US president John F Kennedy in November 1963 (AD) **11.10** Munich Games. Political thriller starring Yousef Sweid and Seyneb Saleh (r) **12.20am** FILM: Crazy, Not Insane (15, 2019) Examining the research carried out by forensic psychiatrist Dorothy Otnow Lewis **2.30** The Janes (r) (AD) **4.30** PL Legends: Paolo Di Canio (r) (AD) **5.00** The Vietnam War (r)

Sky Arts

6.00am Reinventing the Orchestra with Charles Hazlewood **6.55** Romeo and Juliet **9.00** Tales of the Unexpected **10.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.00** Discovering: Shirley MacLaine (AD) **12.00** Vermeer from the National Gallery, London **1.00pm** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** The Art of Architecture **3.00** Portrait Artist of the Year **2014** **4.00** Discovering: Charles Bronson (AD) **5.00** Tales of the Unexpected **6.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **7.00** Discovering: Elizabeth Taylor (AD) **8.00** Cézanne: Portraits of a Life **9.00** I, Claude Monet **10.00** Catherine the Great (AD) **11.10** The South Bank Show **12.45am** The Directors **1.45** Les Dawson's Parisienne Adventure: Urban Myths **2.15** Joan Rivers and Barbra Streisand: Urban Myths **2.45** FILM: Jerry Lewis — The Man Behind the Clown (PG, TVM, 2016) A profile of the entertainer **4.00** Discovering: Elizabeth Taylor (AD) **5.00** Cheltenham Literature Festival

Sky Main Event

6.00am Sky Sports News **7.00** Good Morning Sports Fans **10.00** The Football Show **12.00** Sky Sports News **5.30pm** Live Women's International T20 Cricket: England v India. Coverage of the second match of the series, from The Incora County Ground in Derby **7.30** Live EFL: Preston North End v Burnley (Kick-off **8.00**). Coverage of the Championship match between the Lancashire rivals, held at Deepdale. The teams have not met since Burnley were last in this league in the 2015/16 season, and both matches ended in away wins during that campaign with Preston prevailing 2-0 at Turf Moor, before the Clarets recorded a 1-0 win here **10.30** Soccer Special Post-Match **11.00** Sky Sports News **12.00** Total Access **1.00am** Live MLS: Minnesota United FC v Los Angeles FC (Kick-off **1.00**). Coverage of the match at Allianz Field **3.10** MLS Greatest Games. Chris Wondolowski's top five MLS Goals **3.15** Sky Sports News

Variations

BBC1 Wales
As BBC1 except: **10.40pm-11.10** Luck Stars. The Scarlets face top side Cardiff and James has a dilemma. After losses for both the Ospreys and Scarlets, the teams rally themselves for game two. The Scarlets face top-of-the-table Cardiff on their home pitch, and James faces a dilemma

BBC2 N Ireland
As BBC2 except: **7.00pm-8.00** The Hotel People. The Grand Central is on high alert, as a hotel inspector could arrive at any minute. The Culloden has a new General Manager who is determined to restore the hotel's reputation

STV
As ITV except: **10.50pm** STV News **11.00** Scotland Tonight. Current affairs show **11.35-12.00** Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make. Gino D'Acampo heads to Procida off the coast of Naples, where he meets two women who are at the top of their game and are changing the culinary landscape **3.45am-5.10** Unwind with STV. Daily escape designed to calm the mind and encourage relaxation and reflection

BBC Scotland
7.00pm River City (r) **7.30** Getting Hitched Asian Style. Saffron Events owner Hassan and his team of wedding planners are planning the spectacular nuptials of a man from Motherwell and a woman from Cardiff. Last in the series (r) (AD) **8.30** Scotland's Top Dogs. Series taking an affectionate look at man's best friend, following the stories of Bomb Dogs, Rescue Dogs, Sheep, Sled and Show Dogs (r) **9.00** The Nine **10.00** Inside Central Station. Documentary following staff at Glasgow Central Station (r) (AD) **11.00-12.00** Rip It Up. The evolution of the Scottish music industry and the bands that helped nurture it and still support it today (r)

BBC Alba
6.00am Alba Today **5.00pm** AH-AH/No-No (r) **5.10** Gudrun — A' Bhàna-phrionnsa Lochlannach (r) **5.15** Nannag 'a' Noo/Hugglebo (r) **5.25** Leum is Danns (Jump and Dance) (r) **5.35** 'S lasg a Th'annan ('I'm a Fish) (r) **5.40** Shane an Chef (r) **5.55** Stòiridh (r) **6.00** An Saoghal Drolaig aig Pol Ploc/The Rubbish World of Dave Spud **6.15** Na Danna-thusan aig Tintin/The Adventures of Tintin (r) **6.40** Damhan & Durrag/Pipas & Douglas (r) **6.45** A-nu'll a-nall (r) **7.00** Ceathair air Chuaith (r) **7.30** SpeakGaelic (r) **8.00** An Lá (News) **8.30** An Lot (The Croft) (r) **9.00** Iron Women/Boireannach Iarainn (r) **10.00** Trusadh (Compelling Stories) (r) **11.00** Machair (r) **11.25** Dealbh is Sli�e (r) **11.35** Sorchar nan Reul (r) **12.00-6.00am** Alba Today

S4C
6.00am Cyw: Peppa (r) **6.05** Jen a Jim Pob Dim (r) **6.20** Y Brody Coala (r) **6.30** Dwylo'r Enfys (r) **6.45** Caru Canu a Stori (r) **6.55** Shwshaswyn (r) **7.05** Ein Byd Bach Ni **7.15** Ni Nôg (r) **7.25** Pablo **7.40** Amser Maith Maith yn Ôl (r) **8.00** Bing (r) **8.10** Wibli Sochyn y Mochyn (r) **8.20** Y Dwrnaw Mawr (r) **8.35** Digbi Draig **8.45** Asa (r) **9.00** Olobobs (r) **9.05** Blero yn Mynd i Ocidio (r) **9.20** Jamborî (r) **9.30** Guta Gwningen (r) **9.45** Cacamwinci (r) **10.00** Peppa (r) **10.05** Jen a Jim Pob Dim (r) **10.20** Y Brody Coala (r) **10.30** Dwylo'r Enfys (r) **10.45** Caru Canu a Stori (r) **10.55** Shwshaswyn (r) **11.05** Ein Byd Bach Ni (r) **11.15** Ni Nôg (r) **11.25** Pablo (r) **11.40** Amser Maith Maith yn Ôl (r) **12.00** News; Weather **12.05pm** Pysgod i Bawb (r) **12.30** Heno (r) **1.00** Caeau Cymru (r) **1.30** Cefn Gwlad (r) **2.00** News; Weather **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** News; Weather **3.05** Yr Anialwch (r) **4.00** Awr Fawr: Olobobs (r) **4.05** Jamborî (r) **4.15** Ein By Bach Ni (r) **4.25** Pablo (r) **4.40** Amser Maith Maith yn Ôl (r) **5.00** Stwsh: Y Brody Adrenalin (r) **5.10** Rhyfeddodau Chwilegoch a Cath Ddu **5.35** Lolipop (r) **5.55** Ffeil **6.00** Dim Byd i'w Wisgo (r) **6.57** News **7.00** Heno **7.30** News; Weather **8.00** Pobol y Cwrm. Tesni is ready to tell all at her mother's funeral. Dylan has reached a very dark place (AD) **8.25** Rownd a Rownd (AD) **8.55** News; Weather **9.00** Gwesty Aduniad **10.00** Ogfod Gwddwyd y Dafol **11.00-11.35** Codi Hwy (r)

TalkTV

6.00am James Max. An initial insight into the day's top stories **6.30** The Julia Hartley-Brewer Breakfast Show. All the stories you need to know to start your day **10.00** The Independent Republic of Mike Graham. The host takes a look through the morning newspapers **1.00pm** Ian Collins. Hard-hitting monologues, debates and time for your calls **4.00** Vanessa Feltz. The presenter guides you through the big stories of the day from the world of politics, current affairs and showbiz **7.00** The News Desk with Tom Newton Dunn. The host tackles the biggest stories of the day with a packed hour of news, expert analysis, debate and exclusives from across the UK **8.00** Piers Morgan Uncensored. The host presents his verdict on the day's global events with an hour of debate and interviews **10.00** Daisy McAndrew. The host is joined by a whole host of leading journalists and commentators to discuss the day's big stories and look forward to the next day's newspapers **11.00** Piers Morgan Uncensored **1.00am** Petrie Hosken **4.00** The Talk **5.00** James Max. The day's top stories

BBC4

7.00pm Live Women's T20 Cricket: England v India. The second match of the series, which comes from The Incora County Ground in Derby. The sides have not met in a T20 here since 2006, when India recorded a six-wicket victory, but England are currently a force to be reckoned with in this format and are second in the ICC Women's T20I Rankings, below only Australia and two places above today's opponents **9.30** Gorbachev. Heaven — Storyville. A portrait of the late Mikhail Gorbachev, a hero to the west because of his policies of Glasnost and Perestroika, but blamed in his own country for destroying the Soviet empire. See *Viewing Guide* **11.10** Ted Hughes: Stronger Than Death. Examining how the poet's life shaped his work, including an interview with his daughter Frieda, as well as testimony from family members, friends and fellow writers **12.40am** Sylvia Plath: Inside the Bell Jar. Documentary on the semi-autobiographical novel, exploring the wider landscape of 1950s gender politics **1.40** The Normans **2.10** Cities: Nature's New Wild **2.40-3.10** The Great British Seaside Holiday: Timeshift

Talking Pictures

6.00am Mind of Mr JG Reeder **7.00** FILM: The Black Book (PG, 1949) (b/w) **8.50** Look at Life **9.00** Stagecoach West (b/w) **10.00** FILM: I Met a Murderer (PG, 1939) (b/w) **11.35** FILM: Perfect Understanding (U, 1933) (b/w) **1.15pm** FILM: Private Information (U, 1952) (b/w) **2.30** Sherlock Holmes (b/w) **3.00** FILM: The Silent Enemy (PG, 1958) (b/w) **5.10** FILM: Night Mail II (PG, 1987) **5.40** FILM: The Frozen North (U, 1922) **6.00** Scotland Yard **6.35** FILM: Night Was Our Friend (PG, 1951) **7.00** Drama starring Michael Gough (b/w) **7.50** Look at Life **8.00** Maigret (b/w) **9.05** Van der Valk (4/4) **11.15** Public Eye **12.15am** Cellar Club with Caroline Munro **12.20** FILM: Diary of a Madman (15, 1963) **2.15** Cellar Club with Caroline Munro **2.20** FILM: Die Monster Die! (18, 1965) **4.00** Cellar Club with Caroline Munro **4.05** FILM: Curse of the Faceless Man (15, 1958) (b/w) **5.30** Cellar Club with Caroline Munro **5.35** Glimpzes: Air Enterprises — The Flying Boats

Film4

11.00am Waterloo Road (PG, 1944) Second World War drama starring John Mills (b/w) **12.35pm** River Queen (U, 1954) Western starring Joel McCrea **2.20** The Court-Martial of Billy Mitchell (U, 1955) Courtroom drama starring Gary Cooper **4.25** The Long Ships (PG, 1963) A warrior leading a Viking crew in search of a legendary hall of solid gold is captured by the Moors, who want it for themselves. Adventure with Richard Widmark, Sidney Poitier and Rosanna Schiaffino **7.05** Fantastic Four (12, 2015) Four scientists return from another dimension with unusual powers, which they use to defend the Earth. Superhero adventure starring Miles Teller and Michael B Jordan (AD) **9.00** Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG, 1981) Archaeologist Indiana Jones tries to locate the Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis get their hands on it. Steven Spielberg's action adventure with Harrison Ford and Karen Allen (AD) **11.25-2.55** A Hidded Life (12, 2019) An Austrian farmer faces execution by the Nazis when he refuses to fight during the Second World War. Drama starring August Diehl

More4

8.55am Kirstie's Vintage Gems **9.15** A Place in the Sun **11.05** Find It, Fix It, Flog It (AD) **1.10pm** Heir Hunters **2.10** Four in a Bed **4.50** Find It, Fix It, Flog It (AD) **5.55** Car SOS (AD) **6.55** Escape to the Château (AD) **7.55** The Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes. Dales craftsman Pete Roe repairs an industrial relic and rescues a sheep that has plunged into a pothole, while a Windermere duo take their first steps in running a guest house (AD) **9.00** Chernobyl: The New Evidence. Part two of two. How far Soviet leaders were willing to go to cover up the disaster (AD) **10.00** Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera. Amateur footage and eyewitness accounts telling the story of the earthquake and tsunami that caused devastation in Japan in March 2011 **11.20** 24 Hours in A&E. A pub landlord is brought in with burnt legs as a result of his barbecue gas cylinder exploding, and a builder breaks his neck in three places after falling off his shed (2/8) (AD) **12.25am** 999: On the Front Line **1.25** Chernobyl: The New Evidence. Documentary (AD) **2.30-3.35** 24 Hours in A&E (AD)

Yesterday

6.00am Warbird Workshop **8.00** Abandoned Engineering (AD) **9.00** The World at War **10.00** War Factories **11.00** Abandoned Engineering (AD) **12.00** The Architecture the Railways Built (AD) **1.00pm** Bangers and Cash **2.00** Abandoned Engineering (AD) **4.00** War Factories **5.00** The World at War **6.00** The Architecture the Railways Built (AD) **7.00** Abandoned Engineering. The construction of the Vajont Dam in the mountains of northern Italy, and the catastrophic flood in 1963 that caused the deaths of 2000 people (3/8) (AD) **8.00** Train Truckers. A legendary diesel locomotive, that has undergone over half a million pounds worth of repairs must be hauled over 40 miles ready for a diesel gala (7/8) **9.00** Bangers and Cash. Derek heads off to collect some vintage motorcycles in the north-east of England (AD) **10.00** Bangers and Cash. A man reluctantly sends his dream car to auction (9/10) **11.00** Abandoned Engineering (4/8) (AD) **12.00** The Architecture the Railways Built (AD) **1.00am** Warbird Workshop **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV2

6.00am World's Funniest Videos **7.00** Love Bites (AD, SL) **8.00** Secret Crush **9.00** Veronica Mars **10.00** One Tree Hill **11.00** Hart of Dixie **12.00** Supermarket Sweep **1.00pm** Family Fortunes **2.00** The Masked Singer US **3.05** Veronica Mars **4.00** One Tree Hill **5.00** Hart of Dixie, George invites Zoe to go to New Orleans **6.00** Catchphrase Celebrity Special (AD) **7.00** Secret Crush. Reality show **8.00** Bob's Burgers. Teddi tries to impress his ex-wife by organising a day trip on his newly refurbished boat (AD) **8.30** Bob's Burgers. Tina turns to witchcraft when Tammy steals her idea (AD) **9.00** Family Guy (AD) **9.30** Family Guy (AD) **10.00** Plebs (AD) **10.30** Plebs (AD) **11.00** Family Guy (AD) **11.30** American Dad! (AD

MindGames

Tetonor Moderate No 291

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176	30	56	31

2 2 2 4 5 10 13 16 22

When complete, the strip below the grid can be split into eight pairs of numbers. Adding the numbers in a pair gives one of the 16 numbers in the grid. Multiplying them gives a different number in the grid. For example, a 4 and 6 in the strip could be paired to make 10 (4+6) and 24 (4x6) in the grid. Enter each sum below the corresponding number in the grid. The blanks in the strip must be deduced, bearing in mind the numbers are listed in ascending order.

Solutions tomorrow. The next Tetonor puzzle will appear on Thursday

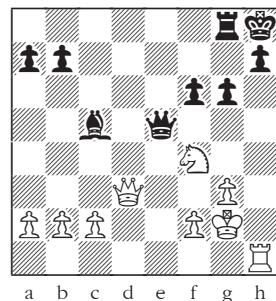
For more puzzles, including an extra Codeword, Train Tracks and Futoshiki go to page 10

Winning Move

White to play.

This position is from Gong-Tristan, Chennai Olympiad 2022.

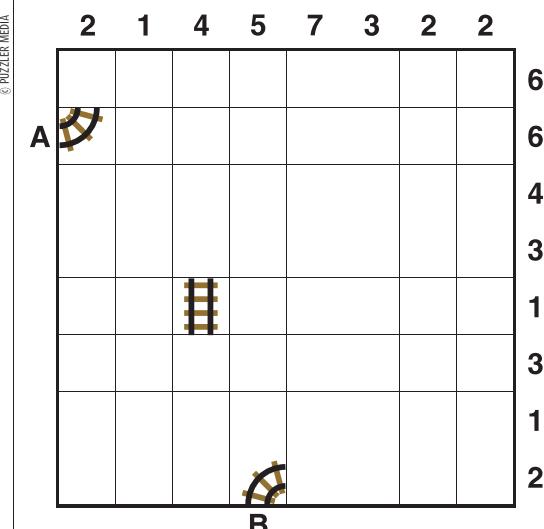
In this position tactical accuracy is vital. White has good play on the kingside thanks to the h1-rook and the consequent pressure against g6. It looks as though 1 Nxg6+ is very strong but this actually backfires thanks to a clever black defence. Can you spot this defence and also find the best initial move for White?



Codeword No 4692

7	19	17	18	20	19	17	13		9	23	8	8
20		14		6		23		7		4		5
21	10	15	6	12		3	10	21	13	14	21	6
2		6		3		3		16		21		23
16	14	10	3		25	14	24	14	10	10	14	20
	21		3		20		17					12
6	3	20	19	19	13		8	17	19	19	13	16
17			10		8		14		20			
14	10	14	22	V	14	17	13	1		10	23	12
5		26		21		6		1		11		21
6	17	13	21	26	14	4		14	26	21	7	13
21		19		14		23		20		12		23
10	23	10	19		25	19	16	8	13	23	7	9

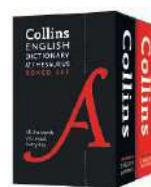
Train Tracks No 1732



Lay tracks to enable the train to travel from village A to village B. The numbers indicate how many sections of rail go in each row and column. There are only straight rails and curved rails. The track cannot cross itself.

Win a Dictionary & Thesaurus

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x2 box contains the digits 1 to 6



2					1
	4	2			
5	6		1	4	
1				2	
5			2		
2			4		

Winners will receive a Collins English Dictionary & Thesaurus

Solve the puzzle and text in the numbers in the three shaded boxes. Text TIMES followed by a space, then your three numbers, eg. TIMES 123, plus your name, address and postcode to 64343 (UK only), by midnight. Or enter by phone. Call 09012 925274 (ROI 1516 303 501) by midnight. Leave your three answer numbers (in any order) and your contact details.

Calls cost £1 (ROI €1.50) plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network charge. Winners will be picked at random from all correct answers received. One draw per week. Lines close at midnight tonight. If you call or text after this time you will not be entered but will still be charged. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm).

What are your favourite puzzles in MindGames?
Email: puzzles@thetimes.co.uk

Lexica No 6523

No 6524

● A E N E E	U M H O E Y
N F B M	
Y A A	
U M S	
E M O	
X L O	
L Y A	
S I Y A S D	S P O L N D

Slide the letters either horizontally or vertically back into the grid to produce a completed crossword. Letters are allowed to slide over other letters

KenKen Medium No 5684

20×	3÷		2-	9+
	3-		72×	
10×			3-	3
5+		6+		11+
	12+		11+	
2÷			1-	

All the digits 1 to 6 must appear in every row and column. In each thick-line "block", the target number in the top left-hand corner is calculated from the digits in all the cells in the block, using the operation indicated by the symbol.

Futoshiki No 4302

	<		<	

Fill the blank squares so that every row and column contains each of the numbers 1 to 5 once only. The symbols between the squares indicate whether a number is larger (>) or smaller (<) than the number next to it.

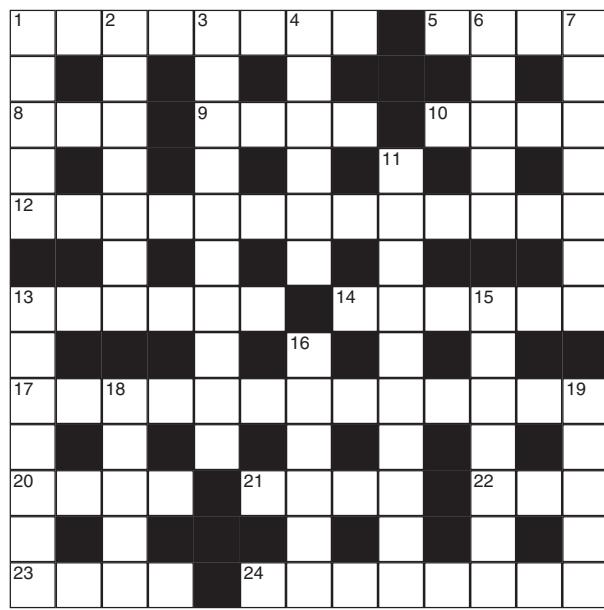
Kakuro No 3261

12	20	39	24
14			
27	16		
	4	14	
20			
22	4		
	14		
7	9	10	22
4	12	15	17
24	4	16	18
22	14	19	27

Fill the grid using the numbers 1 to 9 only. The numbers in each horizontal or vertical run of white squares add up to the total in the triangle to its left or above it. The same number may occur more than once in a row or column, but not within the same run of white squares.

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times2 Crossword No 9008



Across
 1 Plant of Delphinium genus (8)
 5 Large continent (4)
 8 Idiot (3)
 9 Elegant, stylish (4)
 10 Thin covering layer (4)
 12 Provision of hospitality (13)
 13 Stylish, lively (6)

14 Hot rootstock (6)
 17 Relating to good food (13)
 20 Prayer leader (4)
 21 Very young child (4)
 22 Chest bone (3)
 23 Child's toy (2-2)
 24 Former African state (8)

Down

1 Depart (5)
 2 Rice dish (7)
 3 Very large shop (10)
 4 Break the closure of (6)
 6 Pungent substance (5)
 7 Current measuring device (7)
 11 Not discouraged (10)
 13 Be an indication of (7)
 15 Low racing vehicles (2-5)
 16 Unfasten (6)
 18 Frightening (5)
 19 Zodiac sign (5)

Solution to Crossword 9007



Need help with today's puzzle? Call 0905 757 0143 to check the answers. Calls cost £1 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

Bridge Andrew Robson

Writing up my disasters is one part therapeutic, one part demoralising — perhaps a bit like a psychotherapist who helps to uncover a distressing early memory. Go on then, let's get it over with.

First, let me set the scene/make some excuses. It was the recent Rosenblum Cup Teams at the 16th World Bridge Series in Wrocław, Poland, and the qualifying Swiss had reached squeaky bum time. My team Pericolo needed only to avoid two big losses to make the knockout stages (top 32 of 79). This penultimate match had been played very slowly (not by me, guy) and this was the last board with the director hovering menacingly.

After guessing well to remove 6♦ doubled to 6♥, I ruffed West's spade lead and at trick two led up my diamond. West rose with the ace and led his second spade, which I ruffed. What now?

I really didn't know whether to try to set up my clubs, or dummy's diamonds, or perhaps scramble, cross-ruff. The director breathed heavily. I needed minutes to think and barely had seconds.

I stalled and cashed a top club, throwing dummy's last spade. More heavy breathing. I tried a second top club. Disaster — East ruffed with his singleton trump. Although I won the remainder by ruffing East's spade return in hand, drawing trumps (ruffing a club after ♠KQ to cash ♠A) and cashing dummy's diamonds (I could by then count they were splitting 3-3), that was a heart-breaking (a 6♥-breaking indeed) one down.

Dealer: West, Vulnerability: Both

Teams ♠ Q95
 ♥ A643
 ♦ KQ7654
 ♣ -

♠ 87
 ♥ J82
 ♦ A102
 ♣ QJ652

♠ -
 ♥ KQ1095
 ♦ 9
 ♣ AK109873

S(A)R W N E
 Pass 1♦ 4♠
 6♣(1) Dbl(2) Pass Pass
 6♥(3) Dbl(4) End

(1) Best guess. Would a 4NT bid be two places to play, or ace-asking agreeing diamonds? And would partner be on the same wavelength?
 (2) Greedily. Probably, West should be high and pass?
 (3) Believing West's double.
 (4) Less confidently this time.

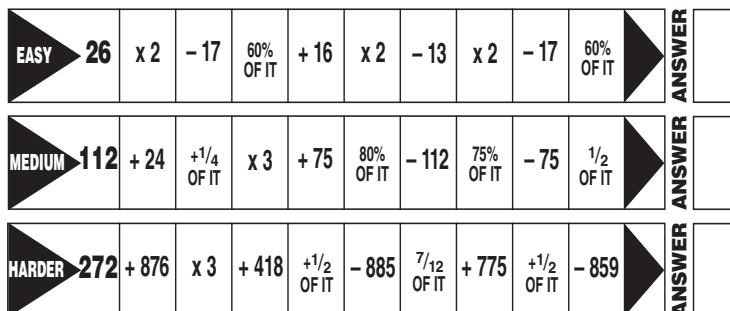
Contract: 6♥ Dbl, Opening Lead: ♠ 8

Knowing East began with eight spades, I doubted diamonds were 3-3 — also thinking West would not hop up with the ace if he held three, setting up five winners in dummy. But could it really cost me to play one high heart from hand before the two top clubs? Hardly. When I then observe East discard on the second club, I know he is 8♠ 1♥ 3♦ 1♣ and can switch tacks, drawing trumps and cashing diamonds.

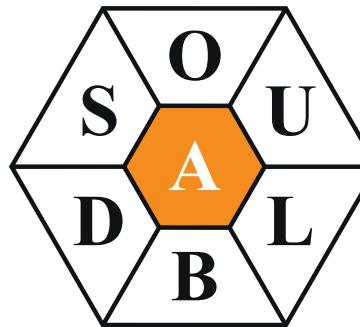
We lost the match fairly heavily — and we lost the last match too. Luckily, we scraped into the knock-out stages in 29th place.

andrew.robson@thetimes.co.uk

Brain Trainer



Polygon

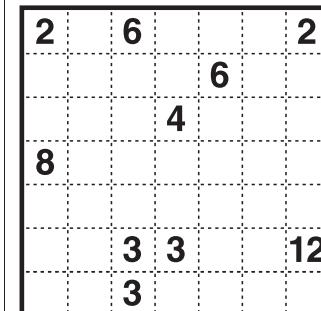


From these letters, make words of three or more letters, always including the central letter. Answers must be in the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, excluding capitalised words, plurals, conjugated verbs (past tense etc), adverbs ending in LY, comparatives and superlatives. How you rate 12 words, average; 17, good; 23, very good; 30, excellent

Yesterday's answers

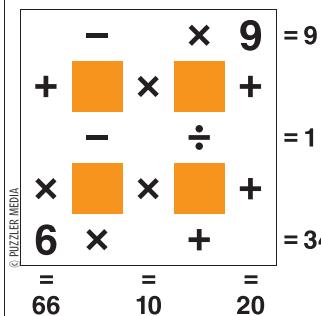
ail, align, calk, clan, clang, clank, cling, clink, gal, glia, ilk, kail, kiln, lac, lacing, lack, lacking, lag, laic, lank, lark, lick, lig, linac, linga, link, nail, nil

Cell Blocks No 4575



Divide the grid into square or rectangular blocks, each containing one digit only. Every block must contain the number of cells indicated by the digit inside it.

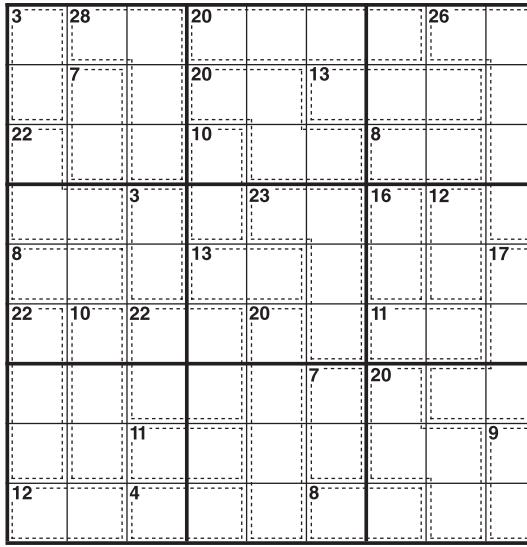
Set Square No 3264



Enter each of the numbers from 1 to 9 in the grid, so that the six sums work. We've placed two numbers to get you started. Each sum should be calculated left to right or top to bottom.

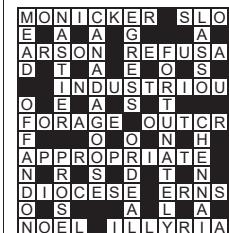
Please note, BODMAS does not apply

Killer Moderate No 8492

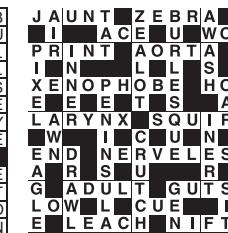


Solutions

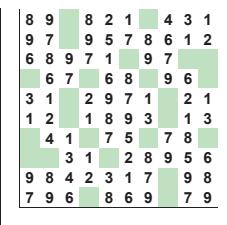
Quick Cryptic 2220



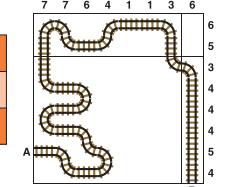
Codeword 4691



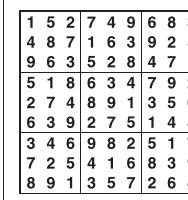
Kakuro 3260



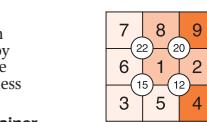
Train Tracks 1731



Quintagram



Sudoku 3593



Sudoku 13,481



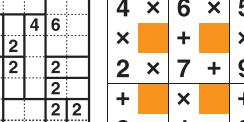
Brain Trainer

Easy 63; Medium 96; Harder 4,598

Cell Blocks 4574



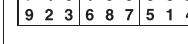
Set Square 3263



Lexica 6521



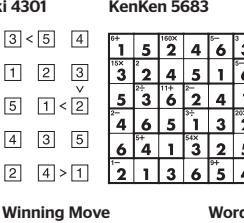
Sudoku 13,482



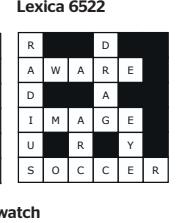
Futoshiki 4301



KenKen 5683



Lexica 6522



Chess — Winning Move

Black's trap is that the apparently decisive 1 Nxg6+? Rxg6 2 Qxg6 is met by 2... Qd5+! turning the tables. If the king moves then 3... Qxh1+ 4 Kxh1 hxg6 wins as does 3 f3 Qd2+ 4 Kh1 hxg6. White actually played the very strong 1 Qxg6! and after 1... Rg7 (1... Rxg6 2 Nxg6+ and 3 Nxe5) 2 Qd3 went on to win easily

Word watch

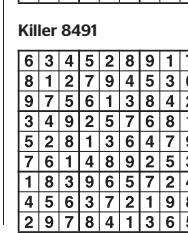
Suscitate (a) To provoke (a rebellion) (*Collins*)
Pretecture (a) A Roman frontier wall (esp the Antonine or Hadrian's Wall) (*OED*)
Churrigueresque (a) (Of architecture) excessively ornate (*Brewer's*)

Quiz

1 Beirut 2 Optic nerve 3 Anne Frank 4 Radiation poisoning 5 Robert the Bruce or Robert I — though his heart is interred in Melrose Abbey 6 Lamb 7 Bitcoin 8 Theodore Roosevelt 9 Cumbria 10 At the back of a woman's gown or dress. It is formed by wide box pleats hanging from a high shoulder yoke 11 Waris Hussein 12 Françoise Gilot 13 Douglas Hofstadter, who developed the concept of a strange loop (a type of paradox) in his book *Gödel, Escher, Bach* 14 Bishop 15 Kelly Holmes

As with standard Sudoku, fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Each set of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the target number in its top-left corner. Within each set of cells joined by dotted lines, a digit cannot be repeated.

Cluelines Stuck on Sudoku, Killer or KenKen? Call 0901 293 6263 before midnight to receive four clues for any of today's puzzles. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).



MindGames

For extra puzzles
See page 10

Word watch

David Parfitt

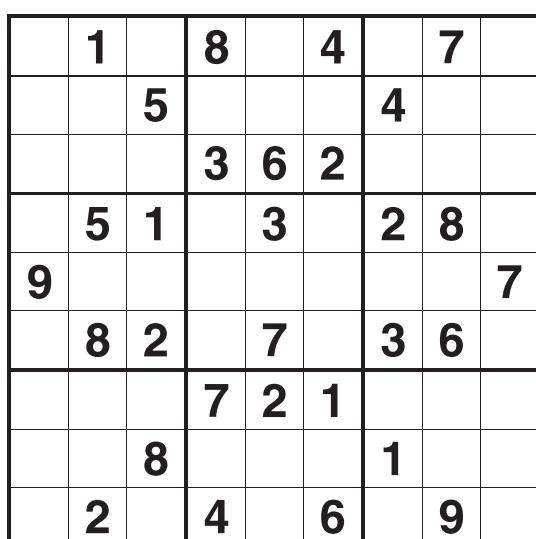
Suscitate
a To provoke (a rebellion)
b To breathe
c To cross-reference (an academic text)

Pretenture
a A Roman frontier wall
b Artifice, fakery
c A feeling of nervous anticipation

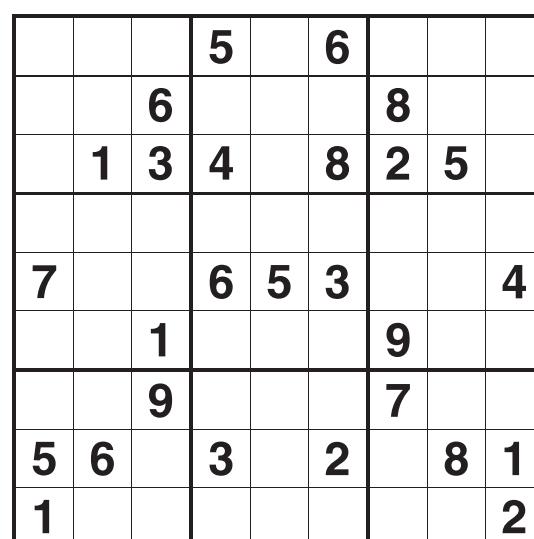
Churriquesque
a Excessively ornate
b A grossly unflattering caricature
c A leap in classical ballet

Answers on page 15

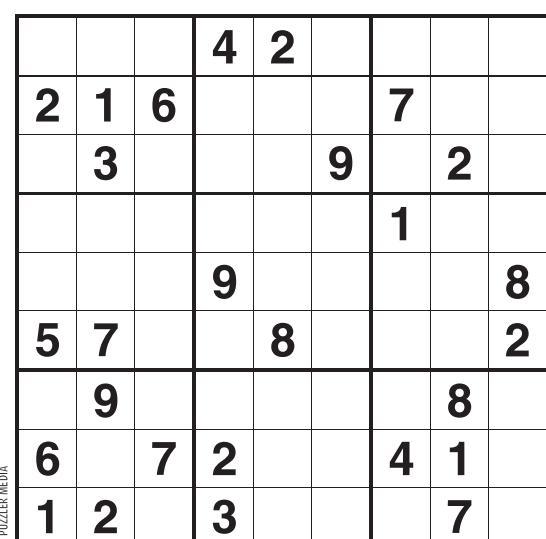
Sudoku Mild No 13,484



Difficult No 13,485



Super fiendish No 13,486



Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

The Times Daily Quiz Olav Bjortomt

1 A massive explosion on August 4, 2020, destroyed much of which Lebanese city's port?

2 Which nerve becomes damaged in the eye condition glaucoma?

3 Shelley Winters won a best supporting actress Oscar for playing Mrs Van Daan in *The Diary of ... who?*

4 Ingesting glow-in-the-dark paints used on clock dials, the "Radium Girls" suffered from which poisoning?

5 In 1329, who became the last of seven Scottish kings to be buried in Dunfermline Abbey?



6 *Le gigot d'agneau Pascal* is an Easter roast leg of which meat?

7 In 2008, Satoshi Nakamoto published which white paper, subtitled *A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System*?

8 Succeeding William

11 Which British-Indian director helmed the first *Doctor Who* serial, *An Unearthly Child* (1963)?

12 Which French painter, who had two children with Picasso, wrote the memoir *Life with Picasso* (1964)?

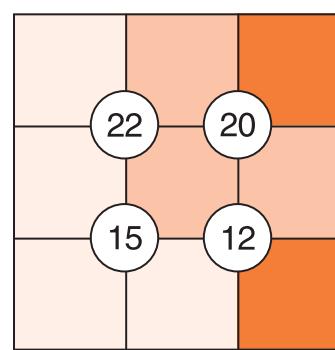
13 The title of the 2019 musical *A Strange Loop* refers to a term coined by which US cognitive scientist?

14 Which chess piece is confined to squares of the same colour as it stood on in the initial formation?

15 Which athlete, who retired from the sport in 2005, is pictured?

Answers on page 15

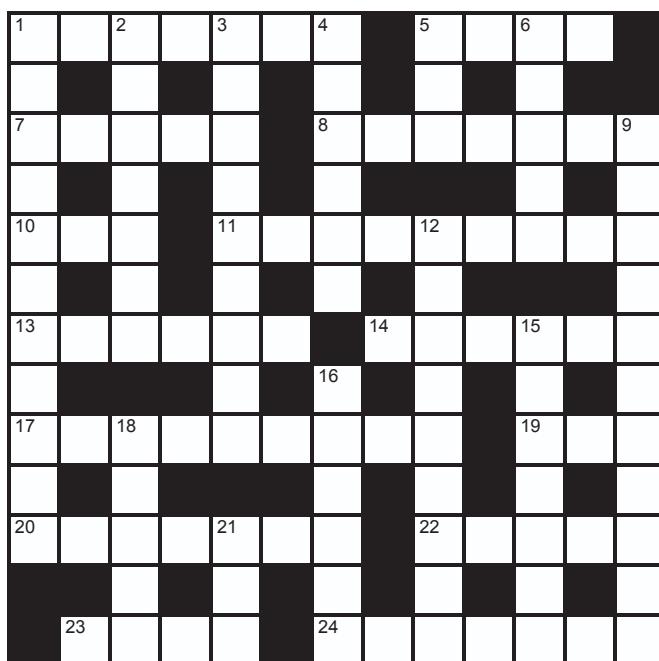
Suko No 3593



Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces, and each colour total is correct

For interactive puzzles visit thetimes.co.uk

The Times Quick Cryptic No 2221 by Mara



Across

- Wrecked, craft turned over and ditched (7)
- Fixture ends in drubbing: Chelsea team sublime (4)
- Old South American soup found here? (5)
- Domain abandoned, heading for country, wandering homeless (7)
- River mostly in Devon placed in Sussex, erroneously (3)
- Naval officer, one found in Botswana, surprisingly (9)
- Catch partner briefly returning (6)
- Snake seen behind opening in lavatory, run! (6)
- Clueless, fumbling for light switch? (2,3,4)
- Pinch leg from the back (3)
- Duck or swallow? (3,4)
- Coffee yet to arrive having eaten last of breakfast (5)
- Dirty colour (4)
- Danger at sea: English prepare to fight! (2,5)

Down

- Object passed round I figure later today (4,7)
- Old canine barking threateningly at first (7)
- Worker on holiday, reportedly — one's pulled up at end of journey (9)
- Refusal reviewed in deal (6)
- Stick face up (3)
- Point raised about journalist for press etc (5)
- Focus delivered a calmness, did you say? (11)
- Engine component to inspire commercial perhaps? (5,4)
- Teacher has work schedule written up for patron (7)
- Something that comes with filling is near ground (6)
- Complete idiot ultimately has messed up a lot (5)
- Figure in motion, exercising (3)

Yesterday's solution on page 15*

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